STORY AND ART BY
OH!GREAT
2
Tenjo Tenge
PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT
CONTENT

PLATE 127.
Anatomy of the Ligaments and Muscles

Figure
1–19. Anatomy of the ligaments
20, 21. Anatomy of the muscles

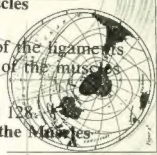


PLATE 128.
Anatomy of the Muscles

Figures 1–15.

PLATE 129.
Anatomy of the Muscles

Figures 1–19.

PLATE 130.
Anatomy of the Fasciæ, Integuments, and Organs of Mastication and Respiration

Figure
1–22. Anatomy of the fasciæ
23–26. Anatomy of the integuments
27–30. Organs of mastication and deglutition
[illegible] of respiration and

PLATE 43. ROCK [illegible] CULTIVATED PLANTS OF MANY FAMILIES, MOSTLY ORNAMENTAL FORMATIONS AND STRATIFICATION

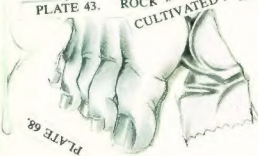
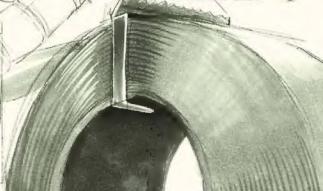
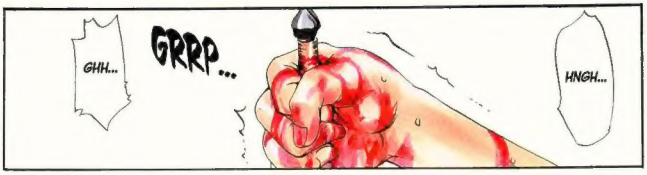


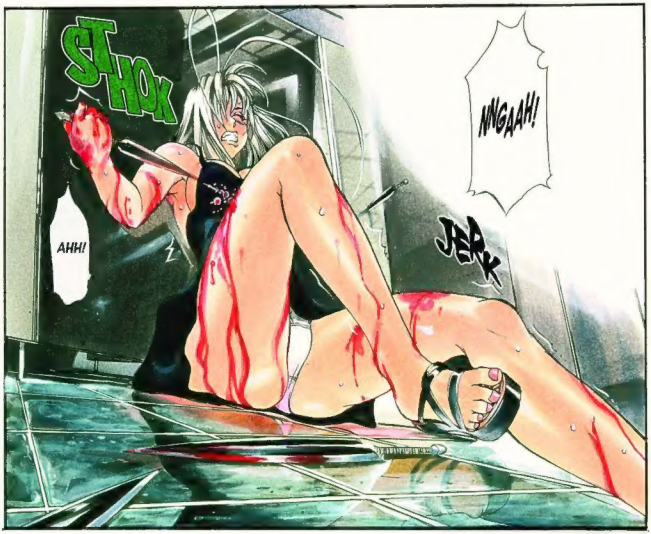
PLATE 68.

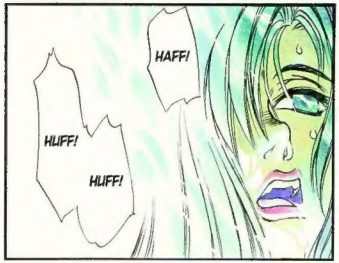


Maya Natsume & Masataka Takayanagi

AYA NATSUME
CAT FIGHT


GHH...
GRRP...
HNGH...


STHOK
AHH!
NNGAAH!
JERK


HAFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!

KTING

FIGHT:13

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NNGH
HRNGH...!
...
Hahh
Hahh
Kind of ironic, isn't it?
EVEN I COULDN'T HAVE PREDICTED THAT FINAL MOVE.
YOU KNOW, YOU REALLY DO...
...PISS ME OFF.
THIS BUILDING'S UNDER LOCK-DOWN BY THE EXECU-TIVE COUNCIL.
THERE'S NOWHERE TO RUN TO.
I'M FULLY AWARE OF THAT.

THE TOUGH FIGHTERS WHO USED TO BE WITH ME... YOU PEOPLE CRUSHED THEM ONE BY ONE THE SAME WAY YOU'RE TRYING TO DO NOW.
SOME HAD TO LEAVE SCHOOL, WHILE OTHERS WERE NEVER ABLE TO FIGHT AGAIN.
I KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE...
...HOW YOU DO THINGS.

AND NOW THE SAME THING'S GOING TO HAPPEN AGAIN, ISN'T IT?
HEH HEH.
ALL THE PRECIOUS MEMBERS OF YOUR CLUB WILL BE TAKEN DOWN AND YOU'LL BE THE ONLY ONE LEFT STANDING.
HAVEN'T YOU EVER STOPPED TO CONSIDER...
...HOW MUCH BLOODSHED YOUR STUBBORNNESS HAS CAUSED?

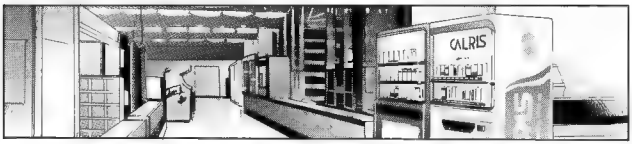
SAY WHAT YOU LIKE.
I WILL...
...CONTINUE TO WALK THE PATH BEFORE ME.

I HAVE NO TEARS LEFT TO CRY.
THE BLOOD IN MY VEINS WENT COLD A LONG TIME AGO.
I'M NOT ASKING FOR FORGIVENESS AND I DON'T NEED SALVATION.
FROM THE VERY START THERE WAS NEVER ANY WAY TO TURN BACK.
ALL THAT I CAN DO NOW IS KEEP MOVING FORWARD, DRAGGING COUNTLESS CORPSES IN MY WAKE.
AND THE ONLY PLACE I'M GOING IS HELL!

FINE... THEN GET OUT OF HERE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME TWICE.
GET OUT OF MY SIGHT.
...
BUT... I JUST REMEMBERED.
I HAVE TO PAY YOU BACK FOR WHAT YOU DID TO MY HAIR.
KRAK!
YOU PROBABLY CAN'T GO ANYWHERE IN YOUR STATE.
Especially after I unleashed my full-course combo on you
Hmph.
I BETTER CALL FOR HELP.
W-WAIT! HOLD ON!
I'M SURE YOUR BUDDIES WOULD ALL COME RUNNING AT THE CHANCE TO SEE...
...THEIR BELOVED ISUZU-SENPAI LIKE NOBODY'S EVER SEEN HER BEFORE, AND FULL FRONTAL TOO.
Aren't I nice?
THAT'S NOT EVEN FUNNY!!

...

IN THAT CASE...
...GRANT ME ONE REQUEST.


CALRIS

THIS TIME...
...I PUT ISUZU IN CHARGE OF THE OPERATION.

VICE CHAIRMAN ISUZU IS CURRENTLY GOING UP AGAINST MAYA NATSUME IN THE FOURTH-FLOOR LADIES REST-ROOM.
AND SAGARA IS TAKING ON ONE OF THE FIRST-YEAR BOYS IN THE HALLWAY ON THE THIRD FLOOR.
ON THE NINTH FLOOR, IN THE EMERGENCY STAIRWAY ACCESS TO THE ROOF, TAGAMI, COMMANDER OF THE 3RD SQUAD, IS LOCKED IN BATTLE WITH THE YOUNGER NATSUME SISTER.

WE'LL WAIT...
...TEN MINUTES.
IF ISUZU DOESN'T COME DOWN IN TEN MINUTES...

...I WILL TAKE ACTION.

GOT IT!
GOOD WORK, NOW SCRAM!
UH... SO... THAT'S WHAT HE SAID...
THAT'S THE END... OF MY REPORT ...
THAT FIGHT MUSTA BEEN SOMETHIN' WITH HER CLOTHES ALL TORN TO SHREDS.
IT PROBABLY WENT LIKE... AW, YEAH... ALL ON TOP OF EACH OTHER...
Ugh
How'd it look?
Can't keep this form
BLIP
BLIP
Oh, yeah...
YEAH, BUT IT'S GREAT YOU CREAMED THAT NATSUME GIRL ALL BY YOURSELF!
NOTHING LESS FROM THE BEST!
THAT'S ENOUGH, NOW GO!
IN YOUR DREAMS, LOSER.
Karate chop.
THK

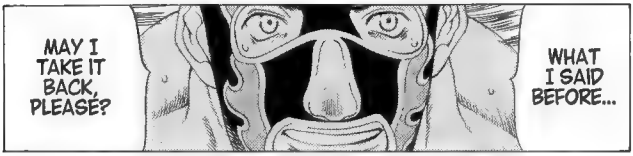
YOU HEARD HIM.
SO WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO NOW?
NOW THAT HE'S HERE, YOU GUYS HAVE ZERO CHANCE OF WINNING.
BLUBUB
SPAT
BOOM!
SAVE THE COMMENTARY.
IT'S NOT EASY KEEPING UP APPEARANCES, IS IT?
I JUST WANT TO GO SEE...
...HOW THAT KID'S DOING RIGHT NOW. THAT'S ALL.
KLINK
WHAT KID?
EVEN THOUGH I'M BLOCKING THE PAIN BY USING MY KI...
...THERE'S NO WAY I COULD PUT UP A REAL FIGHT WITH THESE INJURIES.

THAT BOY IS...
...THE LAST CARD UP MY SLEEVE.
FWAP

AND I'LL FIGHT UNTIL MY LAST BREATH TO WIN!
ZZIP
...I'M STILL THEIR LEADER!
NOW MATTER HOW HOPELESS THE SITUATION IS...

HWoooooooooooooooo
RROAR

HWOOOOOOOOO


MAY I TAKE IT BACK, PLEASE?
WHAT I SAID BEFORE...

WOO
DENIED!

STOMP
SKRE EET

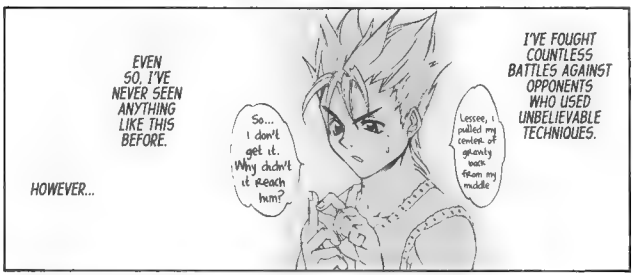
DRAGON FORM KI FORGED NEEDLE
KRA PNG
THIS IS ONE OF THE SO-CALLED "TRANS-FERENCE" TECHNIQUES.
LIKE THAT?
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT IT?
...
...ARE BASED ON THE FORM OF A CIRCLE.
THERE'S A REASON WHY SO MANY MARTIAL ARTS MOVES, INCLUDING THIS HIDDEN TECHNIQUE

KID, WHAT AM I POINTING TO RIGHT NOW?
UH... NOTHING?
...
WRONG. IT'S SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT TO YOU, ME AND EVERYONE ELSE.
THINK ABOUT IT.
WHAT ARE WE ALL SURROUNDED BY?
AIR.
THE "CIRCLE" I SPEAK OF IS NOT MOVEMENT, BUT POWER.
THE CIRCULAR MOVEMENT YOU INITIATE WITH THE TIPS OF YOUR FINGERS GATHERS POWER THAT KEEPS INCREASING AND ACCELERATING.
THE REVERSE STRIKE IS ESSENTIALLY A TECHNIQUE THAT ALLOWS THE USER TO CHOOSE THE POINT OF IMPACT.
IN OTHER WORDS, SO LONG AS THERE IS AN OBJECT TO TRANSFER THE POWER TO...
...A REVERSE STRIKE CAN BE USED ON ANYTHING.
WHERE THINGS GET INTERESTING IS WHEN THE INTENSIFIED REVOLVING POWER IS FORGED INTO A NEEDLE-LIKE FORM BY YOUR KI
THE INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF ENERGY FROM THE CIRCULAR MOTION IS CHANNELED INTO A LINEAR PATH.
THAT'S WHEN...
...AIR BECOMES TANGIBLE MATTER TO YOUR FIST.

BK
...CAN BE TRANS-FERRED THROUGH THE VERY AIR ITSELF!!
OOM
AND THEN, THE POWER OF YOUR STRIKE...

KRAK
KRAK
KRRMBLE

HE MISSED?
THAT DESTRUCTIVE POWER...
Phew, that was close.
HUH?
...


EVEN SO, I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE.
HOWEVER...
So... I don't get it. Why didn't it reach him?
Lessee, I pulled my center of gravity back from my middle
I'VE FOUGHT COUNTLESS BATTLES AGAINST OPPONENTS WHO USED UNBELIEVABLE TECHNIQUES.

YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG !!
YOU IDIOT!

LOOK, KID. YOU JUST LEARNED THAT TECHNIQUE.
IT'S NOT SOME-THING YOU CAN USE AGAINST THESE GUYS RIGHT AWAY.
NATSUME!
THE MIDGET?!
What happened to your clothes? And your hair?
...!!
INSTEAD OF USING THE TECHNIQUE, YOU'RE LETTING IT USE YOU.
BUT SKILLS ARE THINGS THAT YOU NEED TIME TO MASTER.
MARTIAL ARTS ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A SET OF SKILLS FOR BEATING PEOPLE.
YOU...
...HAVE YOUR OWN WAY OF FIGHTING.
REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE, KID.

YOU DIDN'T COME KNOCKING ON MY DOOR BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO BE A MARTIAL ARTIST.
THERE'S MORE THAN ONE PATH TO GETTING STRONGER.
KRAK
KRAK
SHEEZE... WHY'S EVERYONE ALWAYS ON MY CASE...
I know that already!

I'M NO MARTIAL ARTIST.
I'M JUST A STREET PUNK.

SO I'M GONNA FIGHT LIKE A PUNK...
...AND SHOW ALL YOU MARTIAL ARTISTS HOW MUCH STRONGER I AM!!

I DONNED THIS MASK TODAY TO BURY YOU.
NAT-SUME!
...
SHOOM
IT APPEARS THERE'S A MAN HERE I MUST DEFEAT FIRST.
HOW-EVER...

...THAT I WOULD HAVE SHATTERED YOUR ARM!
...I HAVE NO DOUBT IN MY MIND...
YOU OUGHT TO BE GRATEFUL TO NATSUME, FIRST YEAR.
IF YOU HAD BECOME OVER-CONFIDENT AND TRIED TO USE THAT TECHNIQUE ON ME AGAIN...
...AND HE'S BECOME QUITE A FORMIDABLE OPPONENT.
ONE WORD FROM NATSUME ...
SHOW ME WHAT YOU GOT.
SO NOW IT'S YOUR TURN.

DO
OO
M

THESE ARE THE MEN I SET UP AS LOOKOUTS!
EVEN WITH HER BROKEN SHOULDER AND THE KNIFE WOUNDS, NATSUME WAS ABLE TO BEAT ALL OF THEM?!
...
I GUESS I REALLY AM...
...NO MATCH FOR HER.
SKRTCH SKRTCH

GLARE
THE REST... IS UP TO YOU.
ELVE
...I CAN DO FOR YOU.
SORRY... THIS IS ALL...
PLIP
MAKE... YOUR OWN PATH... KID!
SLMP

FIGHT:14

THUD
!!
FORGET ABOUT HER.
...!!
HRMPH ...
I'M YOUR OPPONENT NOW.
YOU'D BETTER FACE FORWARD AND DEAL WITH WHAT'S IN FRONT OF YOU.

DON'T DISAPPOINT ME WITH A BORING FIGHT.
ONLY BY FACING FORWARD CAN YOU SEE THINGS CLEARLY.
LOOKING BACK, THE ONLY THING YOU'LL SEE IS DEFEAT.

BRING IT!

WHIP

NOOSH

GR
R
R
R
FLIP
RZSSSH

--!!
KLENCH
HNOOO

KWHAM

!!
HOP
HYOO
OH...
SHIT...!!
SLAM

SPLAT
...
TH-THIS IS NUTS! HOW CAN HE MOVE SO FAST...
...EVEN THOUGH HE'S SO HUGE?!
GRAB
GAHH!
KRAK

KE
RR
AC
K
WRRP
GUAAH!
ROLL
...

Rolling Turn
German Suplex
Jumping Power Bomb
Scorpion Death Lock
THIS IS THE SAGA SPECIAL.
KIDS, DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME.
KRIK
KRIK
HWLH?!
SLAP
SLAP
SHOCK
RO...
ROPE!
ROPE !!
KRIK
HNGH...
GLIGHH!!
KRIK
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
SKRFF
SKRFF
SKRF
TCH.
Fu

!!
KA-POW
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FELL FOR IT YOU PRO-WRESTLING MUSCLEHEAD!!
That hurt, asswipe!
ZWOOOO

A STRAIGHT RIGHT!
ZM
HMPH!

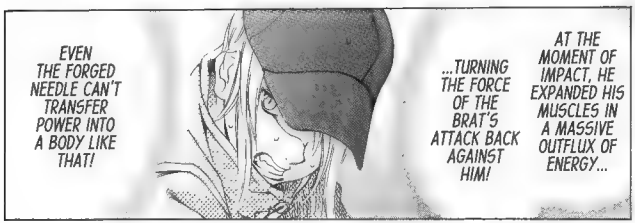
OH, SHIT!
WAVR
DONK
!!
PSYCH. ♡
SWIP
WOOP
ZZHZZHZZH
ZWOMP

WHOM
RRRAH!
IT'S TOO SOON!
THAT... IDIOT!

THE FLEX Saga
Burst Muscle Bomb!
GRRAH!
OOM

FSSSHHH
BSSHT
KRACK
AAAH!
SMAAASH
GUAH!
LOOM
HA...
BROKE YOUR FIST, DIDN'T YOU?
KRNGH
KRNGH
LIOHH...
LINNGH!

WHATEVER AMOUNT OF FORCE YOU USE TO TRY AND ATTACK ME...
...WILL REBOUND BACK AT YOU WITH THE SAME DEGREE OF POWER.
THEY'RE ALSO A WEAPON FOR DEFEATING MY OPPONENTS!
MY MUSCLES AREN'T JUST A SUIT OF ARMOR FOR PROTECTING MY BODY.


EVEN THE FORGED NEEDLE CAN'T TRANSFER POWER INTO A BODY LIKE THAT!
...TURNING THE FORCE OF THE BRAT'S ATTACK BACK AGAINST HIM!
AT THE MOMENT OF IMPACT, HE EXPANDED HIS MUSCLES IN A MASSIVE OUTFLUX OF ENERGY...

!
NO NEED TO GET UP, NATSUME.
...IT MUST HAVE DONE A HUGE AMOUNT OF DAMAGE TO HIS RIGHT ARM.
YOU FLICKER ...
THROB
THROB
YOU...
AND GIVEN THE INCREDIBLE POWER OF THE KID'S ATTACK...

IN ADDITION TO THE WOUNDS YOU'VE SUSTAINED, YOUR RIGHT SHOULDER'S BROKEN.
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FIGHT AT YOUR FULL POTENTIAL FOR ANOTHER MONTH, LET ALONE RIGHT NOW.
IF YOU TRY IT YOU'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD.
--!!
HEY, I AIN'T DONE YET!!
HE...!!
WSSH
Byoo
!!
FINE, BUT I'VE ALREADY ACHIEVED MY INITIAL GOAL.

FLIP
NOW I JUST HAVE TO FOLLOW HIS ORDER.
HOK
BAM BAM BAM
KRACKK
I'LL SMASH THIS BOY'S ARMS ...
...INTO A THOU-SAND PIECES !!
WHOO

HRRRRK
YOU AND RYUZAKI...
...CAN BOTH ENJOY COUNTING THE WRINKLES IN YOUR HOSPITAL BED SHEETS.
WH... WHAT THE?!
I'M THE ONE YOU WANT!
I DON'T THINK I CAN BEAT HIM IN THE SHAPE I'M IN, BUT...
SHF
I KNEW IT. HE'S TOO MUCH FOR THE KID TO HANDLE!
HE'S STRONG!
WAIT, SAGARA !!
...LATE.
TOO...
WHKRRAKK

WHANG
FULL...
HRM...
I... S-SEE NOW... TH-THE... ROOF, HUH?
HMOOO

SKF

M-MOST... LIKELY...
...TH-THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S... S-SIMULTANEOUS ATTACK H-HAS BEGUN... D-DOWNSTAIRS.

SWF
I-IF HE WEREN'T SO OBSESSED WITH P-PRO WRESTLING... HE'D BE AT THE SAME R-RANK AS... ISUZU AND I. HE'S QU-QUITE POWERFUL.
IF... W-WORSE CAME TO WORST AND YOU... T-TRIED TO RUN, SAGARA'S ON THE TH-THIRD FLOOR.

...YOU CHOOSE AN ODD TIME TO ACT LIKE A GENTLE-MAN.
UWD
YOU'RE DIS-TRACTING ME!
HERE, USE THIS!

GWEE
T-TO BE HONEST... I WOULD HAVE N-NEVER WISHED FOR SUCH AN...UNFAIR F-FIGHT.
...S-SAMURAI THAT... S-STILL EXIST TODAY.
I... P-PRIDE MYSELF... ON BEING O-ONE OF THE FEW...

R-RIGHT NOW...THE POSSIBILITY OF Y-YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS WINNING... IS N-NIL. B-BUT THOSE EYES...
IT'S... THOSE "EYES"!
YET STILL...

...I MUST FIGHT!
ZSS
CHAK
SSH
AS LONG AS YOU POSSESS THE EYES...

...AND IN MYSELF.
I BELIEVE IN HIM, IN HIS FRIENDS...
I AM SOICHIRO-SAMA'S WIFE.

NO MATTER WHAT...
...I WILL NOT LOSE TO YOU!!
DOOM

KRNCH
KRIK
KRIK
SNAP
HOW...?!
My muscles...!
WHA...
KRSSH
HE COULDN'T HAVE UNLEASHED IT FROM THAT POSITION!
THE FORGED NEEDLE...? IMPOSSIBLE!

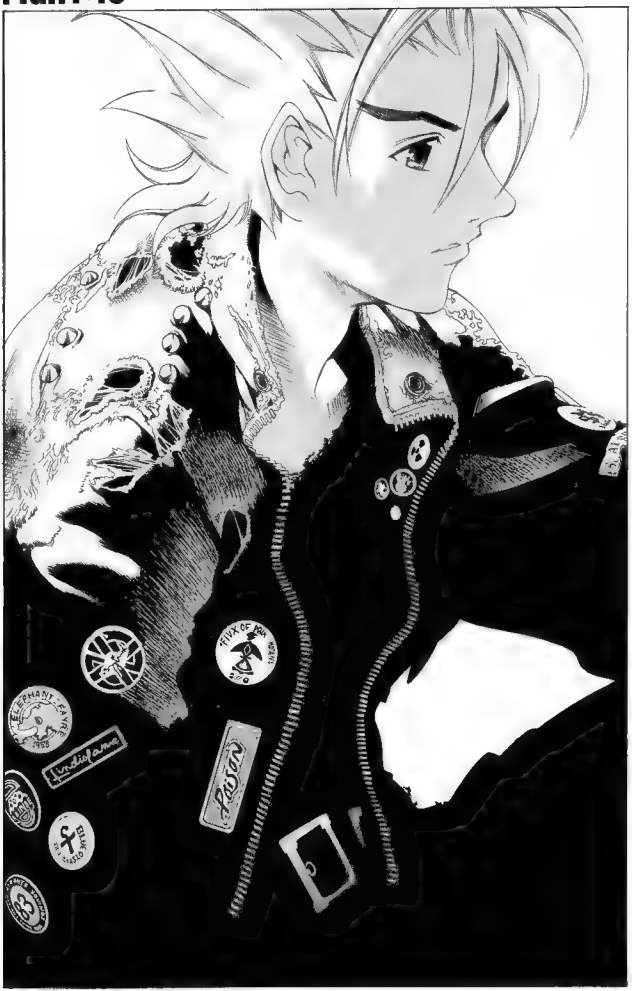
WEAK...
THAT WAS PRETTY DAMN WEAK, ASSHOLE.
ZWWW
ZWWW
HWLIH?!
ZWSH
KRAK
URRGH!
THIS RUNT IS OVER-POWERING ME?!
IMPOS-SIBLE... MY POWER...
LINGH...

HRRYAH!
SHWOOM
ZWWM ZWWM

IT'S POSSIBLE TO USE THE FORGED NEEDLE LIKE THIS?!
REVOLVING ENERGY!!
INSTEAD OF UNLEASHING THE IMMENSE REVOLVING ENERGY GENERATED BY THE FORGED NEEDLE, HE CONVERTED THE POWER AND ABSORBED IT DIRECTLY INTO HIS OWN BODY?!
YOU'RE COMPLETELY FUCKIN' PATHETIC, YOU KNOW THAT?
YOU HAD THE BALLS TO LECTURE ME, HUH?
WHEN THE ONLY REASON YOU TOOK ME ON...
...WAS 'CAUSE SOMEONE ORDERED YOU TO DO IT.
UNGHH...
UOHH...
IT'D BE ONE THING IF YOU WERE WEAK, BUT FOR A TOUGH GUY LIKE YOU...
...THAT'S ONE LAME-ASS WAY TO BE LIVING YOUR LIFE!!
For reals!

BAK
OO
M
YOU LET YOUR HONOR AS A MAN GO TO ROT!!

FIGHT:15



ON THIS CAMPUS, THE MINUTE A NEW CLUB FORMS IT GETS CRUSHED BY ANOTHER ONE.
DON'T YOU KNOW?
JUST GIVE IT UP. IT'S A WASTE OF YOUR TIME.
And a waste of such a great body.
I'M NOT INTER-ESTED.
NAH.
PRO-WRESTLING ?
Y-YOU'RE ASKING ...
... A SAMURAI T-TO TAKE PART IN... A SPECTATOR SPORT?
I OUGHT T-TO KILL YOU.
I'M GLAD YOU ALL CAME.
GET READY FOR SOME TOUGH PRACTICE!
SAGARA, YOU'RE SO HUGE.
I DON'T LIKE HAVING TO PUSH MYSELF.
WHAT DID THEY FEED YOU AS A KID?
WELL...
I ONLY CAME BY BECAUSE YOU ASKED ME TO.
SO ABOUT LILITH'S ASS...
HEY, YOU LISTEN-ING?

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
THE NEW ZELDA'S COMING OUT TODAY.
HOME.
WHAT'RE YOU PIECES OF SHIT DOIN' IN OUR BATHROOM?!
SCRAM!
PAP!
HEFT
HEFT
NNGH
WHY ARE WE USING THE FIRST YEARS' BATHROOM AS OUR CLUB ROOM?
IT WAS THE ONLY SPACE I COULD GET.
I WILL...
...GIVE YOU A CHANCE.

HGGK
IT GOT THROUGH!
HRRGK!
...I NEED A LOT OF POWER AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, ONLY THE MOST SUPERIOR TALENT.
IN ORDER TO BUILD THE IDEAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL...

IF YOU PLEDGE YOUR LOYALTY TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL...
...I'LL GUARANTEE YOU THE FUNDS AND PRACTICE SPACE YOU NEED.
IF YOU REFUSE, I WON'T FORCE YOU.
BUT THE SAME TRAGEDY THAT HAPPENED TODAY WILL REPEAT ITSELF FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS.
YOU TRULY ARE STRONG.
SA...
SA... GARA ...
HOW-EVER...
ALL THOSE AFFILIATED WITH YOU...
...ARE NOT NECESSARILY AS STRONG.
STOMP!!

HAH...
THAT PUNY TAP ISN'T ENOUGH TO BRING ME TO MY KNEES.
GRAHHHH

...WILL DEVOTE MY ENTIRE BEING TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.
...KEEP YOUR PROMISE, THEN I, SAGARA...
...
IF YOU...
BUT ONLY FOR THE SAKE OF KEEPING ORDER IN THIS SCHOOL AND KEEPING MY MEMBERS SAFE!
I WILL BOW TO THE LAW...
...BUT NOT TO YOU!
THE LAW AND THE PAST TWO YEARS OF LIES I'VE LIVED WILL HAVE ALL BEEN IN VAIN!
I...
I...!!
MY FAILURE HERE WILL NOT BE SIMPLY MY OWN.

DWie...
HEY.
WHADDYA SAY WE CALL IT QUITS HERE?
IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAVE TO KILL EACH OTHER.
Right?

AND FIGHTIN' JUST 'CAUSE SOMEONE ORDERED IT IS PRETTY LAME FOR BOTH OF US.
I DON'T THINK THIS BRAWL'S GONNA SOLVE ANYTHING.

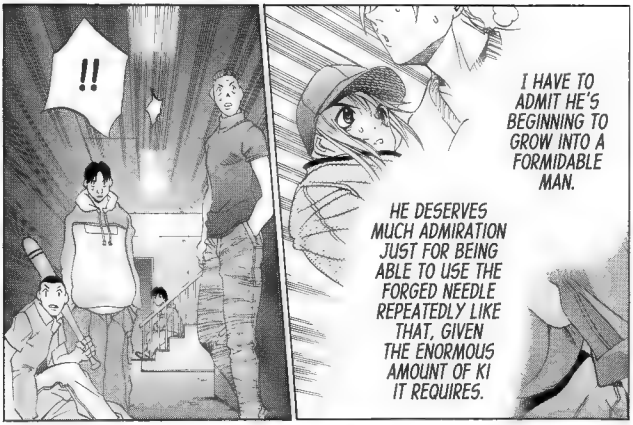
A GUY LIKE YOU...
...I WANNA FIGHT FULL ON, WITHOUT THINKIN' ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE.

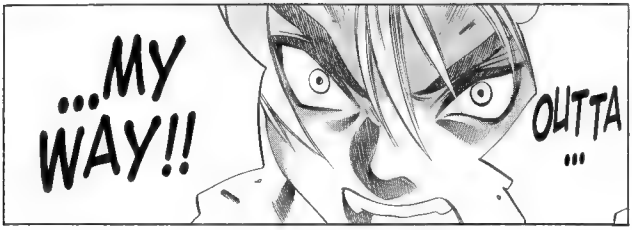
I'LL TAKE YOU ON...
...IN A REMATCH FOR SURE.
...
HMPH...
FIRST-YEAR RUNT...
OF COURSE!
AND NEXT TIME...
...I WILL DEFINITELY WIN!

I COULD HAVE...
IF I HAD SOMEONE LIKE THIS ON MY SIDE...
NATSUME...

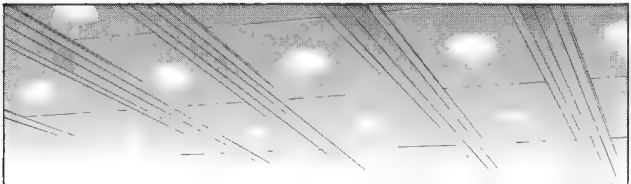
THUDD
I ENVY YOU

WAHH!!
HOIST
AND... HUP!
WHOA, YOU'RE REALLY LIGHT.
...
YOU'RE HURT, RIGHT?
IF ANYTHING ELSE HAPPENS TO YOU, TAKAYANAGI'S SERIOUSLY GONNA KILL ME.
...
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
YUP.
DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND HER?
THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A LITTLE SIDESHOW, BUT IT TURNED INTO AN ALL-OUT BATTLE.
WE GOTTA HURRY.


!!
I HAVE TO ADMIT HE'S BEGINNING TO GROW INTO A FORMIDABLE MAN.
HE DESERVES MUCH ADMIRATION JUST FOR BEING ABLE TO USE THE FORGED NEEDLE REPEATEDLY LIKE THAT, GIVEN THE ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF KI IT REQUIRES.


...MY WAY!!
OUTTA ...

...OF THE POWER IN HIS BLOOD?
IS THIS BUT ONE PART...



I'M
AUGGH!
WHAK
OH,
SHI—
FUUU!!

GYAGH!
BKOW

PHEW...
SPLAT

I GUESS ...
...THAT'S THAT.
WELL...

SHE COULDN'T... GET AWAY...
SHE'S... IN THE LOCKER... BEHIND ME.
CAN YOU STAND?
WHERE'S CHIAKI?
...!!
YO...
BOB!

NEXT TIME YOU PULL SOMETHING THIS DUMB...
...I'M DUMPING YOU ON THE SPOT!
SORRY ...
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF I'M SAFE...
...IF IT MEANS THAT YOU'RE GETTING HURT!
YOU IDIOT ...
So ...
Sorry ...

GRAB
WH-WHOA!
WOBBLE
YANK
Hee...
PANIC
PANIC
WHAT THE ...?!
WHA...
WHAT DID YOU ...?!
ZING
ZZZIP

...STILL HAS A WEAK SPOT BETWEEN HIS LEGS.
EVEN A GUY WHO CAN DEFEAT 80 OTHER GUYS WITH HIS BARE HANDS...
Sorry, man
SHOULDN'T WE HELP?
HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S IN A LOT OF PAIN.
HEY, BOB?

Akeem Lolf
BUT THEY'RE PROBABLY FINE. I'LL WAIT FOR THEM.
YOU GUYS GET OUT OF HERE WHILE YOU STILL CAN.
Ondy
DUNNO...
!!
WHERE ARE SOICHIRO AND THE GIRLS?
...BUT I'M JUST IN THE WAY?
SO YOU'RE SAYIN' THAT YOU CAN RELY ON SOICHIRO...
I GUARANTEE IT.
YOU'LL GET STRONGER TOO SOME-DAY.
BUT FOR NOW...
...GET OUT OF HERE!

...
BOB.
...
HOP
THANKS
...
IT'S NOTHIN'
...
HUG
HUG
HOP

HOW BIG IS THE GAP...
...BETWEEN ME AND THIS GUY?
!!
BING
AND HOW BIG IS IT...
...BETWEEN ME AND SOICHIRO?

ZSSHH...

HMPH
...

SHVP
THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT. MY BODY JUST KNOWS.
HE'S... THE HEAD OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL!
SHVP
SHVP
THIS...
THIS GUY...
YOU TOOK ON ONLY 80 PEOPLE...
...AND NOW YOU CAN'T WALK WITHOUT THE AID OF A FIRST YEAR'S SHOULDER? WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS, MASATAKA?!

*NII-SAN = AN HONORIFIC TERM FOR "OLDER BROTHER"

FIGHT:16

YOU ARE A DISGRACE TO THE TAKAYANAGI FAMILY!
GR-K
WORTH-LESS!
ZSH
THEY'RE BROTHERS ?!
NII-SAN...

FIGHT:16

ZZ AK
SHIVR.
KDOOM

HYUUU
WOOH
BASH
NNGGH!
PSH
KRAAKL
PSH
KRAAKL
PSH
KRAAKL
VWIP
SPLURT

GAHH!
PAKOW
OUT OF MY WAY!
KAGURA-ZAKA!
OK!
ALL RIGHT WITH YOU...
...IF I POUND HIM TO DEATH?
LICK
DO AS YOU PLEASE.

KHH...
FWP
Hyuu
BSSH
HyOOp

ВЫК
ТЫР
ZZZP ZZZP
HSH HSH
!!

PA
KO
W
GUH...
HRRF!
OKAK
GUAH!

THUD

GNASH
TWTCH
TWTCH
SHIVR
MOVE YOUR DAMN BODY, MAKI-HARA!
C'MON... MOVE...
HAHH
HAHH
TOMP
SGH
AHH...
...!!

WHH
KRAK

AH...
AH...

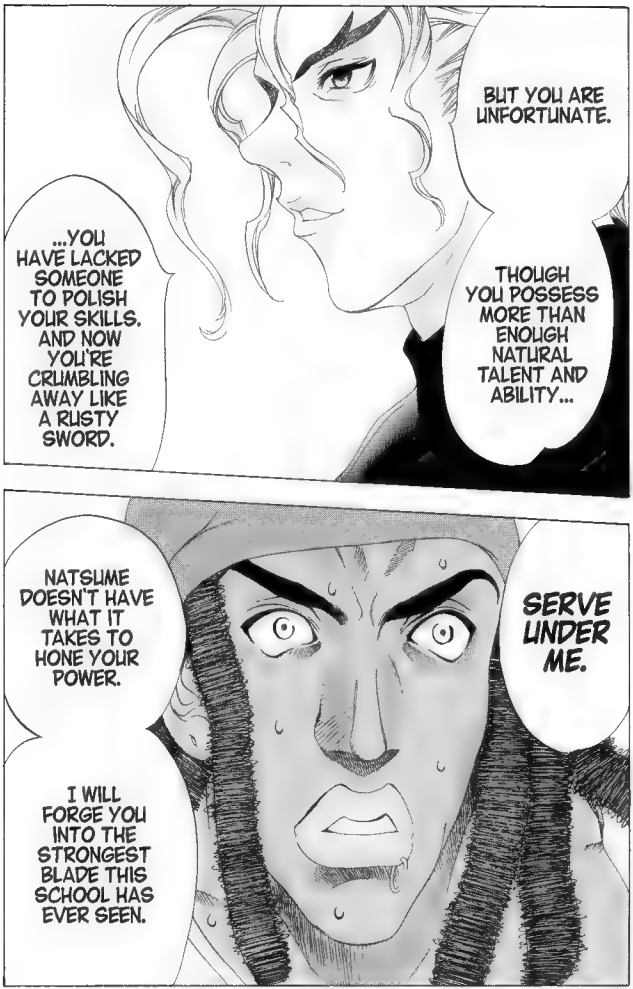
BAM
DKAK
THRAK
URAAHH!
WHUD
WHUD
WOOSH
WHUD
KTHUD
THUD
AAHHH!!
KTHUD
THUD

KTHAM
SPAK
!!
HMM
...

SWIP
...
...!!

YOU
PASS.

HUH...?
...
BOB MAKIHARA.
I HOLD YOU IN HIGH REGARD.


BUT YOU ARE UNFORTUNATE.
THOUGH YOU POSSESS MORE THAN ENOUGH NATURAL TALENT AND ABILITY...
...YOU HAVE LACKED SOMEONE TO POLISH YOUR SKILLS. AND NOW YOU'RE CRUMBLING AWAY LIKE A RUSTY SWORD.
SERVE UNDER ME.
NATSUME DOESN'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO HONE YOUR POWER.
I WILL FORGE YOU INTO THE STRONGEST BLADE THIS SCHOOL HAS EVER SEEN.

I WILL NEVER FORGET WHAT YOU GUYS DID.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WHAT...
...THE HELL...
DON'T FUCK WITH ME!
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOUR HEAD?!
I PASSED? I HAVE TALENT?!
I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU! YOU HURT CHIAKI!!
YOU PIECES OF SHIT...
...I WILL NOT FORCE YOU.
IF YOU INSIST THAT YOU ARE SATISFIED WITH YOUR CURRENT SITUATION...

...!!
HOWEVER, AT THIS RATE...
...YOU CAN TRY YOUR ENTIRE LIFE, BUT YOU WILL NEVER EVEN COME CLOSE TO SOICHIRO NAGI.

YOU WOULD BE BETTER SUITED TO THE PATH OF SUPREMACY.
JOIN ME IN REACHING FOR THE SUMMIT.
...
I WILL...
I...
...
I...

GONKK
GYUH ?!
CHIAKI ?!
Ow!
Breaking Dawn?
...!!

BOB. ♡
WHAT ARE YOU SO AFRAID OF? YOU'RE A MAN, REMEMBER?
STAND UP FOR YOURSELF.
IT'S JUST LIKE TAKAYANAGI SAID.
YOU'LL GET STRONGER FOR SURE.
EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT. MAYA AND AYA DO TOO.
EVEN NAGI KNOWS IT.

AND MORE THAN ANYONE...
...I BELIEVE YOU IN MOST OF ALL.

SO GO AHEAD AND TAKE YOUR HITS.
BECAUSE I'LL BE THERE TO TAKE THEM WITH YOU.
AND THEN, NO MATTER HOW MANY YEARS IT TAKES, YOU CAN PAY THEM BACK A HUNDRED MILLION (x2) TIMES OVER.
PING

HUG
SNIK
CHIAKI.
MY SHAKING
..
YOU REALLY ARE...
...A FINE WOMAN.
IT'S STOPPED!

HOH...
BUT...
RRRRRRIP
TO BE HONEST ...
...I DON'T THINK I CAN BEAT THIS GUY.
I AIN'T GOIN' OUT HERE LIKE SOME LITTLE BITCH.
THE WOMAN I LOVE IS STANDING BEHIND ME.

I WOULDN'T LOOK AWAY IF I WERE YOU, HONEY.
MAYBE YOU THINK YOU CAN TAKE IT EASY?
OR MAYBE YOU'RE NOT TAKING ME SERIOUSLY Y—
...
KAGURA-ZAKA.
WATCHING THOSE TWO JUST NOW...
...MADE ME REALIZE WHAT THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MUST BE FEELING.

YOU'RE ALL AFRAID.
NOT OF ANY SPECIAL POWERS OR ABILITIES.
DEEP DOWN, YOU'RE AFRAID OF THE UNYIELDING STRENGTH OF SPIRIT...
...THAT KEEPS PEOPLE GOING NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU TRY TO CRUSH THEM.

AND NOW I'LL SHOW YOU...
...WHY YOU SHOULD BE AFRAID OF ME.

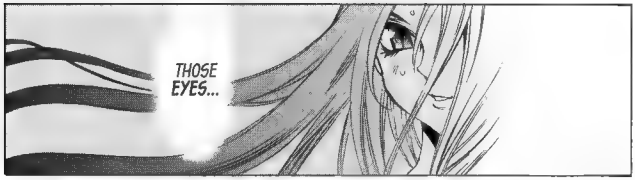
FIGHT:17

BAKOOOM
KBAM
BAM
BAM
KBAM
BAM
BAM
KBAM
BAM
KBAM
...!!
WH-WHAT'S... GOING ON HERE?
YOU LITTLE ...
SHE'S NOTHING LIKE BEFORE.
GRIT
HAHH.
CHK
SHC
HK

SHSH
FLTTR
KAH!
HUM
VV
M

HAHH
HAHH
HAHH
KBAB
HAM
PHEW...
BUMP
BUMP
BUMP
BUMP
BUMP
BUMP
BUMP
SHVR
HAHH
SHVR...
HAHH
HAHH

...M-MOCK ME...?
HUFF HUFF
I...IT'S THOSE EYES...
KCHAK
E-EVER SINCE... I KNOCKED HER DOWN THAT F-FIRST TIME... SHE'S LIKE A D-DIFFERENT PERSON.
Y-YOU...
...D-DARE... TO...
CHAK


THOSE EYES...

!!
SWSSH

WHAK
HRNGH!
THUD
HYAHH!
BAM
HYAH!
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
UAAH!
SWSH
SWSH
SWSH
IT C-CAN'T BE... SHE'S... D-DODG-ING MY ATTACKS ... ...AT P-POINT BLANK RANGE!
...!!

...EXACTLY HOW SHE WANTS ME TO!!
IT'S ALMOST AS IF I'M MOVING...
GRIP
ZZM
SHE HAS...
SHCHOK
...THE DRAGON EYES!
!!
SNNG
FWWP

Natsu-
me
Style
Staff
Tech-
nique
Iron End
Return
!!
KRAKK
THUDD
KA-CHK
SHE'S...
SHE'S A MONSTER!
KRAK
...GHH...
KRAK

HUFF!
ZSHH
HUFF!
MMM...
HEH HEH...
SHVR SHVR
PLIP PLIP
SPLUK
HRRG... GKKH...
HA HA HA!!
HA HA HA!
AH HA HA!

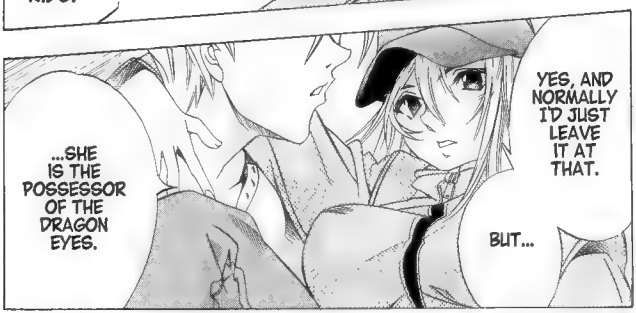
AH HA HA
WH-WHY... IS SHE LAUGHING?
IS THE S-SIGHT...OF MY FACE BEING PUMMELED INTO THE G-GROUND... SO AMUSING?
OR...IS S-SHE THAT OVERJOYED... BY HER OWN INCREDIBLE STRENGTH?
HA HA
...
BUT...
WH-WHEN I FIRST SAW HER... I W-WOULD HAVE NEVER IMAGINED S-SHE WOULD...LAUGH LIKE THIS.
Heh heh heh...

AS IF...

IT'S ALMOST...

...JUST A CHILD.
AYA IS STILL...

NO DUH. SO AM I.
AND SO ARE YOU.
WE'RE ALL STILL JUST KIDS.


YES, AND NORMALLY I'D JUST LEAVE IT AT THAT.
BUT...
...SHE IS THE POSSESSOR OF THE DRAGON EYES.

WOOD, FIRE, EARTH, METAL, WATER... SHE CAN READ THE KI OF EVERYTHING ON EARTH AND EXTRACT INFORMATION FROM IT.
THIS ALLOWS HER EVEN TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE AND RECONSTRUCT IMAGES FROM THE PAST.
USING THE DRAGON EYES SHE CAN STRIP HER OPPONENTS BARE.

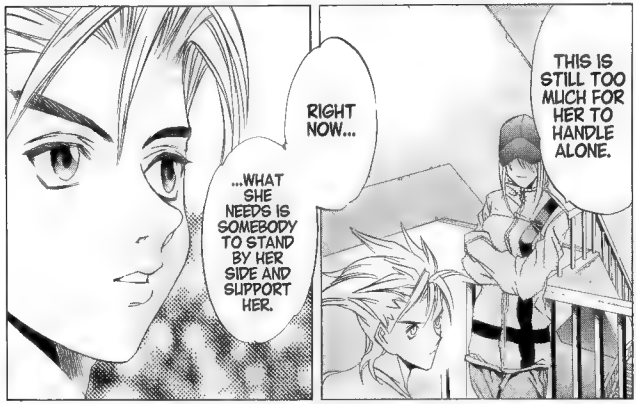
OOPSIE. ♡
GAH
WHOA!...
TRIP
!!
AND IT SEEMS SHE SNUCK A PEEK OF THE KISS YOU AND I SHARED.
BAD MP
TMP

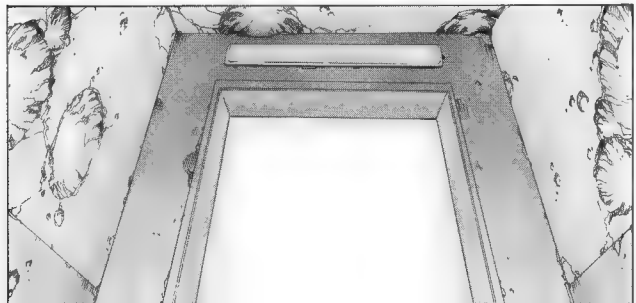
FROM HERE ON...
...YOU HAVE TO GO ALONE.
AYA MAY VERY WELL BE IN A FIGHT FOR HER LIFE.
THE WAY I AM NOW, I CAN'T BE OF ANY HELP TO HER.
SO YOU MUST GO...
...BY YOUR-SELF.

...AYA ISN'T FIGHTING TAGAMI RIGHT NOW.
BUT THE THING IS...
IS HE REALLY ALL THAT STRONG?
THAT TAGAMI GUY.
YES. HE'S ONE OF THE TOP TEN STRONG-EST IN SCHOOL.
POFF POFF

SHE'S LOCKED IN A LIFE-AND-DEATH STRUGGLE WITH THE POWER OF THE DRAGON EYES.
AN INCREDIBLE POWER SHE CAN'T ESCAPE FROM, EVEN AS ITS MONSTROUS FANGS THREATEN TO TEAR HER APART.

AND THE DRAGON EYES WON'T BE THE ONLY THING SHE'S FIGHTING.
WITHIN THAT TORRENT OF IMMENSE POWER, HER MORALS AND SENSE OF VALUES WILL BE TORN TO SHREDS.
ALL THAT WILL BE LEFT IS HER HUMAN ESSENCE... IN OTHER WORDS, SHE'LL ALSO BE FIGHTING AGAINST HERSELF.


THIS IS STILL TOO MUCH FOR HER TO HANDLE ALONE.
RIGHT NOW...
...WHAT SHE NEEDS IS SOMEBODY TO STAND BY HER SIDE AND SUPPORT HER.

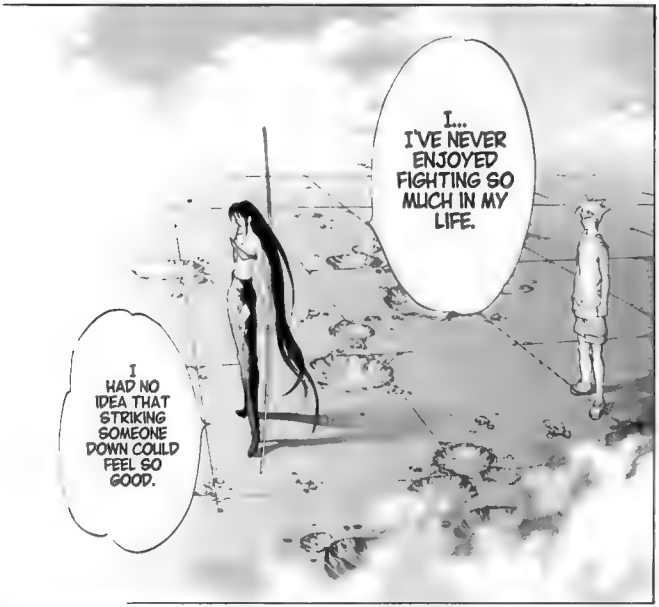


SSH
TMP
THIS IS A TURNING POINT FOR YOU TOO.
KID...
IT'S LIKELY THAT THE BATTLE AWAITING YOU...
...WILL BE FAR CRUELER THAN ANYONE ELSE'S.

PLIK
PLIK
PLIK

!!
IT'S ALL RIGHT... HE'S NOT DEAD... I THINK.
I DEFEATED HIM. ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.
SOICHIRO-SAMA.

FOR BEING ONE OF THE LEADERS, HE WAS SO WEAK.
I COULD FORESEE ALMOST EVERY ONE OF HIS MOVES AND BLOCK IT.
HIS ATTACKS WERE SO OBVIOUS... IT WAS LAUGHABLE.


I...
I'VE NEVER ENJOYED FIGHTING SO MUCH IN MY LIFE.
I HAD NO IDEA THAT STRIKING SOMEONE DOWN COULD FEEL SO GOOD.

I'M DESPIC-ABLE...
...AREN'T I?

IT MADE ME FEEL...
...SO MUCH PLEASURE.

...CRYING?
ARE YOU...

...YES.

FIGHT:18

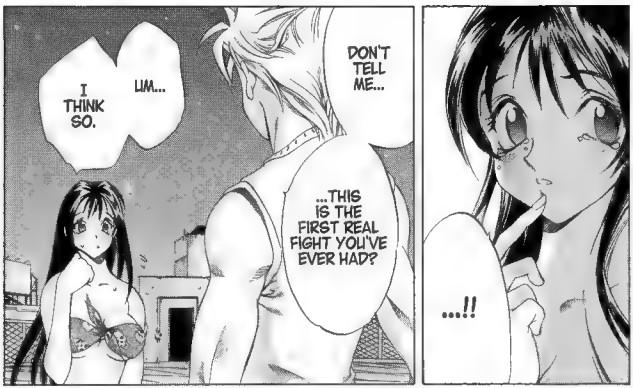
PLEASE STOP...
KRII
SLIP
SLMMP
TINKLE
TINKLE
KRSH
KRSH
THE TRUTH IS...
...I COULD HEAR IT THE WHOLE TIME.
A VOICE KEPT SAYING, "STOP"...
"PLEASE STOP"...

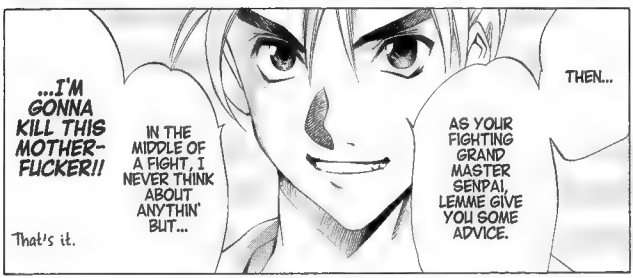
IT WAS THE VOICE OF HIS STAFF, CRYING IN PAIN AS IT'S MASTER WAS BEATEN TO A BLOODY WRECK.
AND...
...IT WAS THE VOICE OF MY SOUL, PINIONED UNDER THE POWER OF THE DRAGON EYES.
KLATTA
BUT I DIDN'T.
I POUNDED HIS FLESH AND SHATTERED HIS BONES... EVEN THOUGH I HAD ALREADY WON THE FIGHT.
I... I STILL COULDN'T STOP.

I...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO... I COULD HAVE KILLED A MAN...
WHAT DO I DO? I DIDN'T MEAN TO... I JUST...
I JUST... WANTED TO BE WITH YOU, SOICHIRO-SAMA!
BUT...
SOMETHING KEPT TELLING ME, "USE YOUR POWER!" AND "THE WORLD IS YOURS FOR THE TAKING!"
IT TOLD ME MY OPPONENT WAS NOTHING MORE THAN AN ANT OR A COCKROACH... TELLING ME OVER AND OVER AGAIN, "KILL HIM!" "DESTROY HIM!"
SO... SO I...

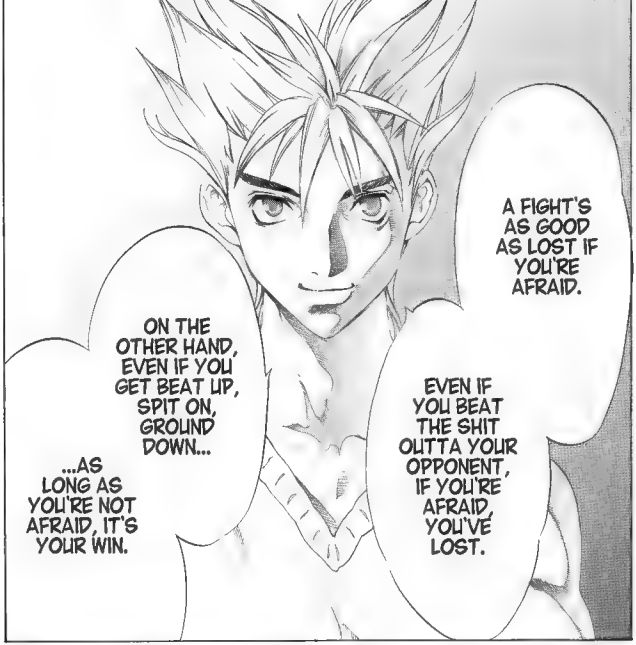
KYAA!
WAKE UP!!
WAK
K
WAKARA
Gurk!

HE'S ALIVE.
...?!
...?!!
...Hagk!
Koff koff...


DON'T TELL ME...
...THIS IS THE FIRST REAL FIGHT YOU'VE EVER HAD?
UM... I THINK SO.
...!!


THEN...
AS YOUR FIGHTING GRAND MASTER SENPAI, LEMME GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE.
IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIGHT, I NEVER THINK ABOUT ANYTHIN' BUT...
...I'M GONNA KILL THIS MOTHER-FUCKER!!
That's it.

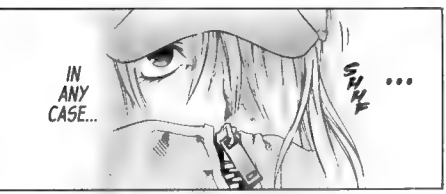
OTHER-WISE, I'LL GET MY ASS BEAT.
AND NOT BY THE GUY I'M FIGHTIN'...
...BUT BY MY SELF.


A FIGHT'S AS GOOD AS LOST IF YOU'RE AFRAID.
EVEN IF YOU BEAT THE SHIT OUTTA YOUR OPPONENT, IF YOU'RE AFRAID, YOU'VE LOST.
ON THE OTHER HAND, EVEN IF YOU GET BEAT UP, SPIT ON, GROUND DOWN...
...AS LONG AS YOU'RE NOT AFRAID, IT'S YOUR WIN.

RIEKO
DON'T FORGET IT, AYA.
THAT'S THE ONE AND ONLY RULE TO A REAL FIGHT.

I'M GONNA BE STRAIGHT WITH YOU. THIS TIME, YOU LOST.
SO NEXT TIME, WIN!
WIN WITH A SMILE ON YOUR FACE!

OH WELL, I GUESS IT'S HOW HE DOES THINGS.
I wonder if it'll get through to her.
What a strange way to cheer someone up...
IS HE TRYING TO ENCOURAGE HER TO HAVE ENOUGH STRENGTH TO CONTROL HERSELF?


IN ANY CASE...
SIGH ...

...NATSUME.
WELL AREN'T YOU THE TRAGIC HEROINE...

!!
...

OKAY?
SO DON'T OVERDO IT.
STRESS IS BEAUTY'S WORST ENEMY. ♡

THOSE GAZONGAS ARE LIKE KRYPTONITE TO ME.
HEY, NOW! ANYWAY, DON'T STICK YOUR TITS OUT AT ME LIKE THAT.
WHAT A SURPRISE. YOU ACTUALLY MADE THE EFFORT TO SHOW UP.
...SHIITAKE MUSHROOMS, CRYING BABIES...
...AND YOUR TITS.
THE ONLY WEAKNESSES I HAVE IN THIS WORLD ARE...
GET A GRIP, YOU PERVERT!
BET I'D LOSE IN THREE MINUTES. ♡
I AM COMPLETELY, TOTALLY SERIOUS. WANNA TEST IT OUT?
Your tits versus my dick
Gurl, I would definitely (love to) lose to you
IF ONLY THAT WERE TRUE...
Heh.
I'D HAVE SUCH AN EASY TIME OF IT.

BUNSHICHI TAWARA!
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THE FIGHT BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE JUKEN CLUB, SO WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
ARE YOU THAT IDIOT MITSUOMI'S LOYAL DOG NOW? COME TO SNIFF US OUT?

...I WON'T LET YOU DO ANYTHING TO THOSE TWO.
SHF
JUST SO YOU KNOW...

YOU'RE SO COOL. I JUST FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU AGAIN.
THAT'S MY GIRL.
HA HA HA!

!!
WAIT, WAIT, HOLD UP!
SKFF
I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH OF A FIGHT I CAN PUT UP RIGHT NOW, BUT...
...EVEN INJURED, I'M STILL PROBABLY THE ONLY MEMBER OF THE JUKEN CLUB WHO CAN TAKE HIM ON.
!!
OH, MY! WHAT'S THAAAT I HEAR?
A BUNCH OF SHOUTING AND CARRYING ON FROM THE GROUND FLOOR?
HMM... WHAT EVER COULD IT BE?
OHHH... I SEE.

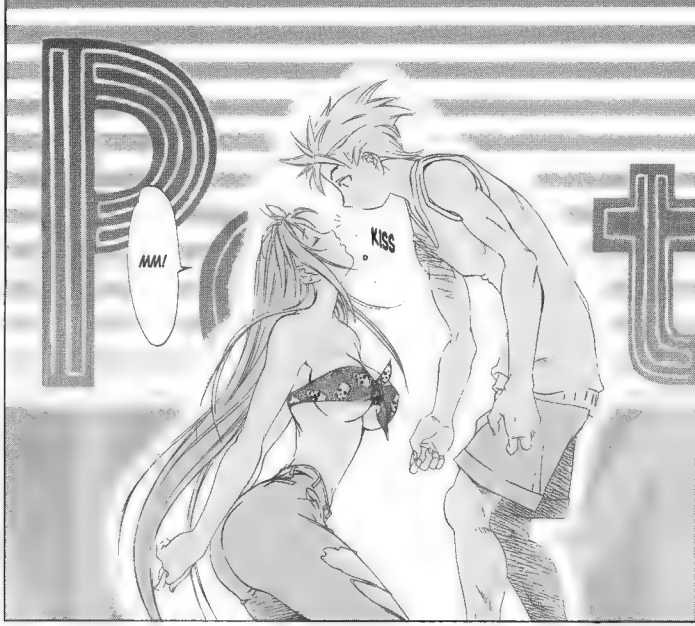
WELL, IT SEEMS THE FIGHT IN THE LOBBY'S OVER.
AND OUR BOYS HAVE STARTED TO WITHDRAW.

??!

SQUAD 3, DISPERSE!
YES, SIR!
IF THE COPS NAB YOU, DON'T GIVE 'EM THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL.
ANYONE WHO CAN WALK, TAKE THE TRAIN HOME
HEY, HOLD HIM STEADY THERE!
OW!

NO, IT'S OKAY... IT'S NOT BECAUSE OF BEFORE.
UM... I MEAN, THAT WAS PRETTY ROUGH, BUT...
IT'S JUST... UMMMM... I'M SORRY!!
C-C'MON NOW, DON'T CRY.
UHH... SO...
SHIT, NOW SHE'S CRYING EVEN HARDER!
OH MAN... I SUCK AT STUFF LIKE THIS.
...
HE TOUCHED MY FOREHEAD... IT'S THE FIRST TIME SOICHIRO-SAMA TOUCHED ME!
AND HE CALLED ME BY MY FIRST NAME!
!!

I'LL STOP CRYING.
OKAY! I'M ALL RIGHT NOW!

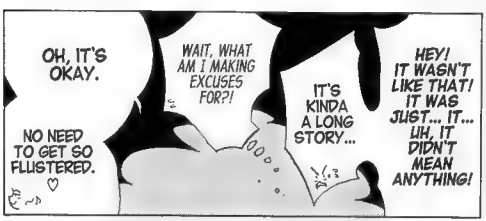

MM!
KISS

SO NEXT TIME, I WON'T LOSE. ♡
THAT WAS MY GOOD-LUCK CHARM.
GAH! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU PULLED THAT CRAP AGAIN!
SKTR SKTR
HEE HEE HEE!

BUT SOMEDAY...
...YOU HAVE TO DO THAT SAME THING TOO, SOICHIRO-SAMA.
TAKE A GOOD-LUCK CHARM.

AS FAR AS WHAT YOU DID WITH MY SISTER...
STARE
OH, AND...

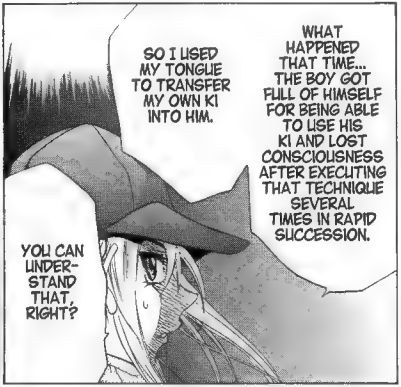
...UHH...


OH, IT'S OKAY.
NO NEED TO GET SO FLUSTERED.
WAIT, WHAT AM I MAKING EXCUSES FOR?!
IT'S KINDA A LONG STORY...
HEY! IT WASN'T LIKE THAT! IT WAS JUST... IT... UH, IT DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING!

AYA!!
KID!!
MAYA?
SOMETHING WEIRD'S GOING ON DOWN ON THE FIRST FLOOR.
I'M WORRIED ABOUT TAKAYANAGI AND BOB.
LET'S GO!

THAT'S ONE THING I'M ABSOLUTELY SURE OF.
!!
I'M NOT GOING TO LOSE, MAYA.

YES, I UNDERSTAND QUITE WELL.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DOESN'T UNDER-STAND.


WHAT HAPPENED THAT TIME... THE BOY GOT FULL OF HIMSELF FOR BEING ABLE TO USE HIS KI AND LOST CONSCIOUSNESS AFTER EXECUTING THAT TECHNIQUE SEVERAL TIMES IN RAPID SUCCESSION.
SO I USED MY TONGUE TO TRANSFER MY OWN KI INTO HIM.
YOU CAN UNDER-STAND THAT, RIGHT?

YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THAT, MAYA.
YOU THINK YOU KNOW EVERY-THING...
...BUT YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE MOST ESSENTIAL PART OF YOURSELF.

I'M NEVER GIVING UP SOICHIRO-SAMA!
SO I'LL TELL YOU RIGHT NOW!
Sigh...
YO! LET'S GO!
WAIT UP, SOICHIRO-SAMA!
HMPH...
...IS THE SPITTING IMAGE OF THE OLD YOU.
THAT GIRL...
SHE'S JUST LIKE YOU.

I DON'T WANT HER TO END UP LIKE I DID.
THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO END THIS BLOODSHED MYSELF.
SO WHAT'LL IT BE?
WE GONNA DO IT OR WHAT?
THE SEX, I MEAN.
I'LL PASS ON THE FIGHTING PART.
It hurts too much.

ROLL
TAP

KAGURA-ZAKA.
GO WARM UP MY BIKE FOR ME.
...
SWAP

I'LL BE THERE IN THREE MINUTES.

FIGHT:19

FIGHT:19

SO YOU'RE...
TOMP
...SOICHIRO NAGI.
TOMP
AND YOU MUST BE THE CHIEF DICK...
HE LOOKS THE PART... ALL DUDED UP...
SEEMS REALLY FREAKIN' STRONG, TOO...
YOU ACTUALLY WALK AROUND TOWN DRESSED LIKE THAT?
TOMP
THE POWER OF ONE SUPERIOR INDIVIDUAL IS MORE VALUABLE THAN THE STRENGTH OF TEN THOUSAND.
I'M ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW TALENT.
TOMP
THE KEY TO BATTLE LIES IN INDIVIDUALS, NOT NUMBERS.
WUUUH
CHAK

TOMP

BUT YOU DON'T MAKE THE GRADE, SOICHIRO NAGI.
NO MATTER HOW GREAT YOUR STRENGTH MAY BE...
...YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY SERVE ME WITH THE POWER BORN FROM YOUR TAINTED BLOOD.

GET AWAY FROM HIM!!
STOP IT!!
KA WHAM
GRRP

TH
WAK
!!
KRAK
IT'S SAGA'S MUSCLE BOMB!
TANG
WHOMM
THWIP
THRAKK
AAH!

WHRAK
Byuu
GOOM
ZW
OOM
SKEE
WHAT ...?!

Dragon Form Ki Forged Needle, True Mastery
Supreme Twin Dragon Blazing Palm Strike!!
GOOM
THAT'S...
NAGI!
RUN!!
...MY...
Z'NOOOO

HRACK!
HOW... DID HE...
BO
OM

THIS TECHNIQUE WAS ORIGINALLY A SECRET ART PASSED DOWN ONLY THROUGH THE TAKAYANAGI FAMILY.
WHUMP
THE FORGED NEEDLE IMITATION YOU USE IS NOTHING MORE THAN A DEBASED REMNANT PASSED ON BY THOSE WHO STOLE THE ORIGINAL WISDOM.
TWITCH
TWITCH
FSSH...
YOU TOO WILL SOON LEARN.
AH...!
SOICHIRO-SAMA...!
SPLATCH
JUST LIKE THESE GIRLS' BROTHER, SHIN NATSUME, THE MAN WHO STOLE AND SULLIED MY TECHNIQUE.
YOU TOO WILL KNOW THE DEPTHS OF MY ANGER AND GRIEF!

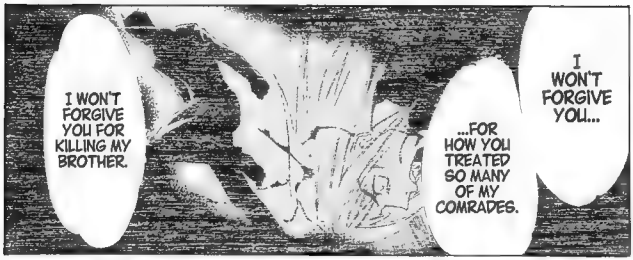
HOW DARE YOU!!
YOU...
HOW DARE YOU...
!!
PAKK
FLICK
WH...
...UH?

MAYA.
HOW LONG DO YOU INTEND TO KEEP THIS UP?
WHUD
AND NOW THE SOLDIERS MUST RETURN TO SERVE UNDER THEIR KING.
DROP THIS RIDICULOUS STUBBORN-NESS.
CRUNCH
MITSU-OMI...
A COUNTRY NEEDS ONLY ONE KING. A MARTIAL ARTS SCHOOL NEEDS ONLY ONE HEAD.
ALL THE OTHER SCHOOLS, THE NATSUME INCLUDED...
...WERE FACTIONS BORN FROM THE TAKAYANAGI LONG AGO.

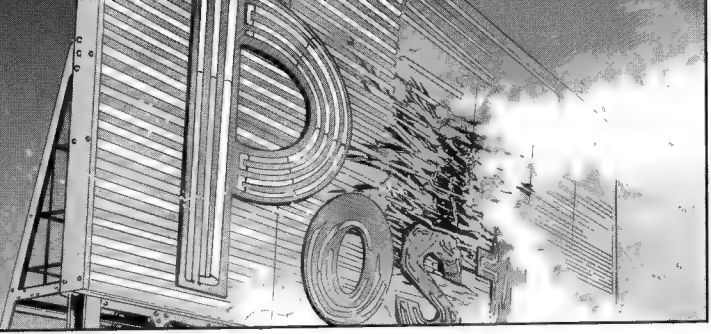
!!
RRIP
PTING
Hnn...
MITSUOMI!
I...
Hnnn...
YOU MOVED QUITE WELL DESPITE YOUR INJURIES.
YOU'VE GROWN STRONG.

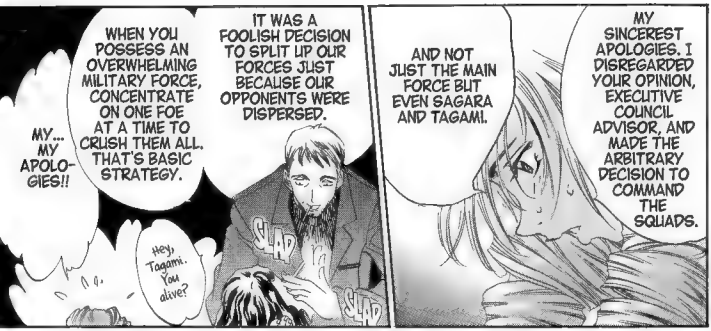
MAYA!
SERVE UNDER ME AGAIN. LIKE OLD TIMES.
IT'S NOT TOO LATE YET.

YOU CAN'T...
...TURN BACK TIME, MITSUOMI.


I WON'T FORGIVE YOU FOR KILLING MY BROTHER.
...FOR HOW YOU TREATED SO MANY OF MY COMRADES.
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU...

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DEPRIVED ME OF A PLACE TO COME BACK TO.
AND MOST OF ALL...
YOU AND YOU ALONE.




MY SINCEREST APOLOGIES. I DISREGARDED YOUR OPINION, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ADVISOR, AND MADE THE ARBITRARY DECISION TO COMMAND THE SQUADS.
AND NOT JUST THE MAIN FORCE BUT EVEN SAGARA AND TAGAMI.
IT WAS A FOOLISH DECISION TO SPLIT UP OUR FORCES JUST BECAUSE OUR OPPONENTS WERE DISPERSED.
WHEN YOU POSSESS AN OVERWHELMING MILITARY FORCE, CONCENTRATE ON ONE FOE AT A TIME TO CRUSH THEM ALL. THAT'S BASIC STRATEGY.
MY... MY APOLO-GIES!!
Hey, Tagami. You alive?
SLAP
SLAP

AW, IT'S NOT THAT BIG A DEAL. MITSUOMI ACTUALLY SHOWED UP, SO HE'LL TAKE CARE OF THINGS.
Hello, Earth to Tagami.
NATSUME'S SEVERELY INJURED AND THE TWO FIRST-YEAR BOYS ARE GOOD AS DEAD IN MITSUOMI'S HANDS.
IT SHOULD TAKE MAYBE TWO MINUTES.
WHAT A BUMMER ...
I FEEL BAD FOR NATSUME.
THIS FIGHT'S BEEN ALMOST TWO YEARS IN THE MAKING...
...BUT IT'S GONNA END IN JUST TWO MINUTES.
HEY, I DIDN'T SAY YOU COULD LIFT YOUR HEAD YET.
BY THE WAY, YOU'RE NOT THE VICE CHAIRMAN ANYMORE. YOU'RE FIRED. You got that?
BOM
AH! I... I'M SORRY!!
BOM
ASTRAY

BUT I DON'T GET IT. IF THIS IS ONLY GOING TO TAKE TWO MINUTES TO WRAP UP, WHY DID MITSUOMI...?
OH, WELL.
MAYBE HE WAS NEVER ACTUALLY SERIOUS ABOUT CRUSHING THE JUKEN CLUB.
Guess he's still in love with Watsume.
THE REAL PROBLEM LIES ELSE-WHERE.
WHY DID HE WAIT UNTIL NOW TO PUT AN END TO A PROBLEM HE'S BEEN LETTING FESTER FOR SO LONG?

LIN...
LINKNOWN F-FACTORS...
T-TWO...
...LINKNOWN... FACTORS...

TAGAMI!
I saw my cat who died last year.
You're awake?
THE PRESIDENT... P-PROBABLY... S-SENSED IT TOO...
THAT THERE IS NOT...
...ONLY ONE KING.
SAGARA!
TOMP

TAWARA. DISPOSE OF THIS MASK FOR ME.
I NO LONGER...
...NEED IT.
Yuck! It's rank!
TWO YEARS AGO... WHEN WE WERE STILL FIRST YEARS...
GFH
BATTA
...THE SAME THING HAPPENED.
MWA MWA MWA MWA

A KING WILL INEVI-TABLY ...
...BE OVER-THROWN BY A NEW KING!

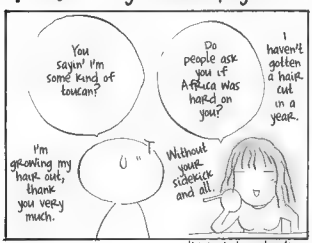
Afterword

Initial Concepts Part III

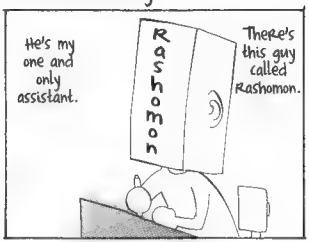
Emi Isuzu

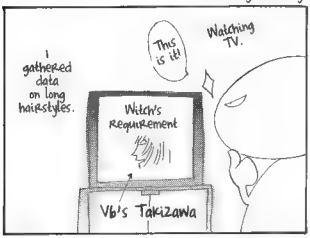
I'd never had a character with sausage curls before, so I thought "Why the heck not?" and that was how I came up with her design. She takes particular attention and care to draw, but I really like her. The sketch to the left was something I came up with when I was drawing the illustration that ended up on the back cover. She's got a cute ass.

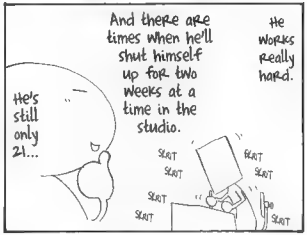
GURE-kichi's Bonus Manga: The "I hardly get out as it is, so why can't I get these pages done faster?!" Story

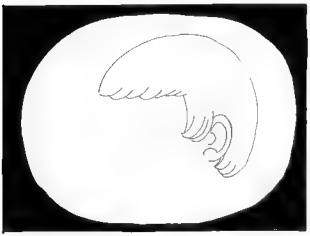

You sayin' I'm some kind of toucan?
Do people ask you if Africa was hard on you?
I haven't gotten a hair cut in a year.
I'm growing my hair out, thank you very much.
Without your sidekick and all...

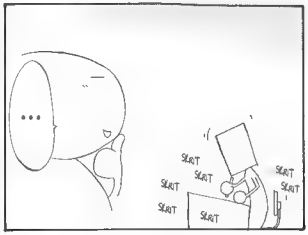
I think she's just acting.

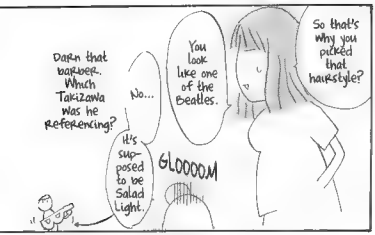





He's still only 21...
And there are times when he'll shut himself up for two weeks at a time in the studio.
He works really hard.
SCRT



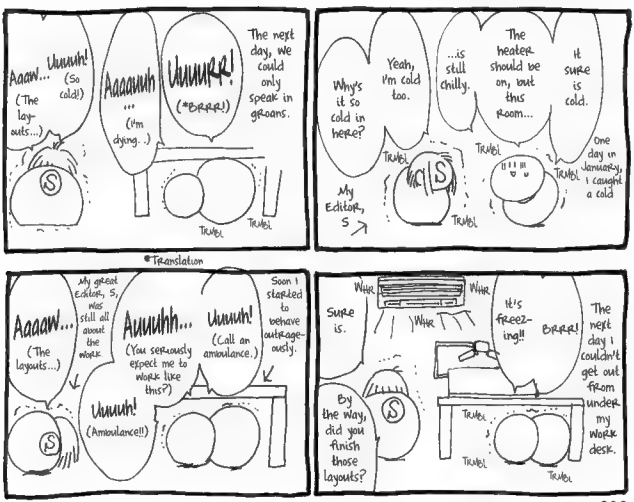


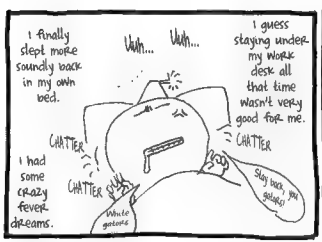

Darn that barber.. Which Takizawa was he referencing?
No...
It's supposed to be Salad Light
You look like one of the Beatles.
GLOOOOM
So that's why you picked that hairstyle?

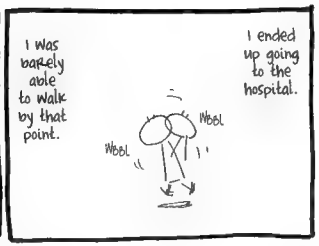
↑ Does everybody hate this guy? OR is it just me?

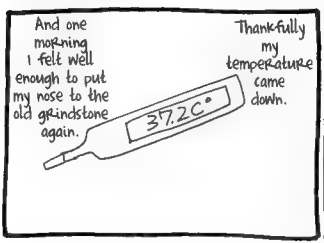
Cure-kichi's Business Trip Manga: The Saga of the Cold

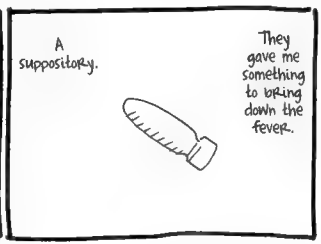
I HAD TO MISS A CHAPTER IN *ULTRA JUMP* ISSUE 26 DUE TO A COLD. SO THIS IS THE BONUS COMIC I DID DURING THAT TIME.


Aaaw... (The layouts...)
Uuuuh! (So cold!)
Aaaauuh... (I'm dying..)
Uuuurr! (*Brrrr!)
The next day, we could only speak in groans.
Trubl
Why's it so cold in here?
Yeah, I'm cold too.
...is still chilly.
The heater should be on, but this room...
It sure is cold.
My Editor, S
One day in January, I caught a cold
*Translation
Aaaaw... (The layouts...)
My great Editor, S, was still all about the work.
Auuuhh... (You seriously expect me to work like this?)
Uuuuh! (Call an ambulance.)
Uuuuh! (Ambulance!!)
Soon I started to behave outrageously.
Whir
Sure is.
It's freezing!!
Brrr!
The next day I couldn't get out from under my work desk.
By the way, did you finish those layouts?

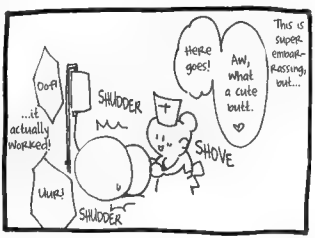

I finally slept more soundly back in my own bed.
I had some crazy fever dreams.
Uuh...
Uuh...
I guess staying under my work desk all that time wasn't very good for me.
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
Stay back, you galaxy!
White gestures


I was barely able to walk by that point.
I ended up going to the hospital.
WOBL
WOBL

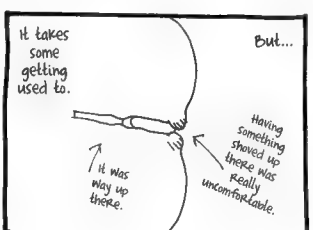

And one morning I felt well enough to put my nose to the old grindstone again.
Thankfully my temperature came down.
37.2C°


A suppository.
They gave me something to bring down the fever.

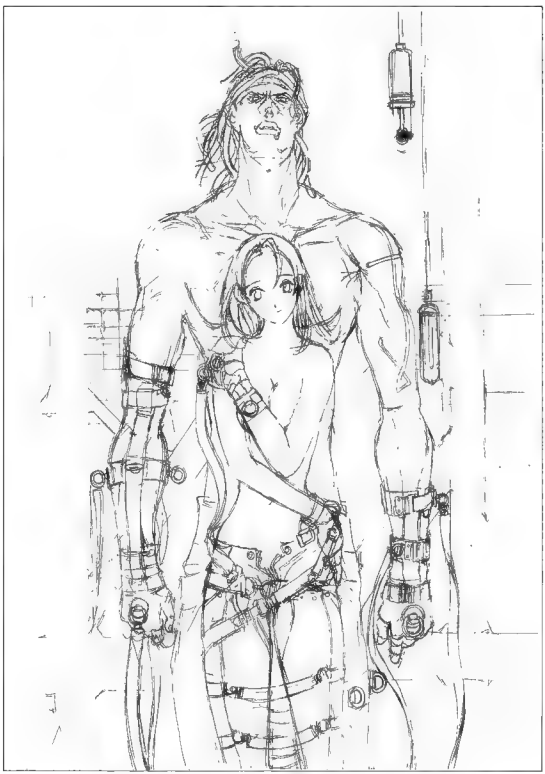
SHOOOCK
Huh? What the...
I look like Professor Ochanomizu!
HORROR
BOING


Here goes!
Aw, what a cute butt.
This is super-embarrassing, but...
Oof!
...it actually worked!
SHUDDER
SHOVE
Uuhh!
SHUDDER

Next time, I'm gonna try homeopathic treatments.
I blew my nose so many times that it swelled up.
SNEAK
SNEAK


It takes some getting used to.
But...
Having something shoved up there was really uncomfortable.
It was way up there.

読んでくれてありがとう
ございます。
See You Next comix
1999年6月



Series Editor: Kenzou Tonda
Book Editor: Ayami Sakurada
Original Design: Yoshitake Abiko
Thanks: Pacific. Oririn, Masahiro Tatsumi,
Masaharu Maruyama

A compilation of the serialization that ran in
Ultra Jump magazine from 1998 Issue 23 to 1999 Issue 30.

People often say to me, "Your characters' faces change from one panel to the next." When they do, I answer all confident and smooth-like with, "Well, human faces are ever-changing, you know." The truth is, when that happens I get a sinking feeling inside and feel a cold sweat coming on. But I'm still sticking to my story.

END
VOLUME 2
PART 1

AYA NATSUME

Aya Natsume

FSSSSSS
SSSH

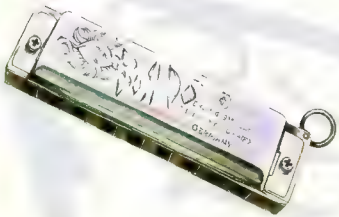
TENJO TENGE

FIGHT:20

LET'S GO CRAZY

CONTENTS

VOLUME 2
PART 2



FIGHT 20 217
FIGHT 21 241
FIGHT 22 275
FIGHT 23 305
FIGHT 24 343
FIGHT 25 375
FIGHT 26 405

MY TWIN DRAGON STRIKE DEFINITELY PIERCED HIS LIVER AND SOLAR PLEXUS.
RIGHT NOW HE SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MOVE, LET ALONE TALK.
I FELT IT.
MAYA.
IS THIS WHY...
...YOU HAVE SO MUCH FAITH IN HIM?
I UNDER-STAND NOW.
I CAN SEE IT AS WELL.

ROAAAAR

KR, KR, K, K
KRAK
NORMALLY, KI IS BORN WITHIN ONE'S BODY AND CAN BE USED ONLY BY ONE'S BODY.
THAT'S WHY THERE'S A FINITE AMOUNT OF IT.
FOR EXAMPLE, EVEN I WILL RUN OUT OF KI IF I CONTINUE TO USE IT.
THERE ARE SOME WHO POSSESS ENOUGH KI TO INSTANTLY HEAL THE DAMAGE FROM MY ATTACKS.
KLAK
KLAK
!!
BUT THERE ARE EXCEPTIONS.
AN IN-EXHAUSTIBLE AMOUNT OF KI, SO GREAT THAT ITS POWER DISTORTS THE VERY AIR AROUND THEM.
KLAK

KRAKK
BASH
SO WHERE DOES THIS KI COME FROM?
FREEZE

GRRR...
FZ!K
MAYA...
DID YOU THINK HE COULD DEFEAT ME?
!!
THROB
THROB
WHOOO
RRRR...
DID YOU BELIEVE...
...THAT HE COULD SUCCEED WHERE EVEN YOUR BROTHER FAILED?

FS SHHH
DOES HE...
...STILL LOOK LIKE A DRAGON TO YOU?

SHIN
...?!

FWIP
WAVR
I HAVE TO ADMIT THAT WHEN I SAW HIS NAME ON THE NEW-STUDENT ROSTER I WAS RATHER HOPEFUL.
BUT AFTER HE FOUGHT MASATAKA AND RYUZAKI I SAW THE LIMIT OF HIS CAPACITIES.
SWP
ZWSH
ZSH
SWAK

DA
KA
A
M

?!!

...

WH-
WHAT
?!

GRAB
LINGH...
WH
OMP
KPOW
GUAHH!

STOP IT! THAT'S ENOUGH, KID!

GRRP...
ZWIP

...MAYA.
YOU'RE SUCH...
...A FOOLISH WOMAN..

IT'S AS IF...
...YOU WANT ME TO KILL AGAIN.

THERE ARE SOME WHO POSSESS SO MUCH KI THAT IT SEEMS INEXHAUSTIBLE.
KLAK
BUT THAT KI IS NOT SOMETHING THAT IS BORN FROM WITHIN THAT PERSON'S BODY.
PERHAPS IT COMES FROM A GOD?
OR A DRAGON.
A SPIRIT.
A DEMON.
NO MATTER WHAT WE CHOOSE TO ATTRIBUTE IT TO...
...ITS ESSENCE REMAINS THE SAME: IT IS AN INHUMAN KI THAT DWELLS IN THE TREES AND AIR.

...YOUR BROTHER ONCE DID.
THOSE WHO CAN CONTROL SUCH POWER ARE CALLED DEMONS.
AND THESE DEMONS USE THAT IMMENSE POWER FOR WICKED ENDS.
JUST AS...
...AND NOW THIS BOY.
YOU ARE THE ONE WHO KILLED THEM.
FIRST SHIN...

ZAAN
THIRD YEAR AT TODO ACADEMY, LEADER OF THE SUPREME WARRIOR FACTION, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.
MITSUOMI TAKA-YANAGI...
...HAS ARRIVED.

...HE DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE IF MITSUOMI GETS SERIOUS.
EVEN IF HE DOES HAVE THE BLOOD OF THE MAGABARA! FLOWING IN HIS VEINS...
WHY AM I NOT STOPPING THIS?
HE'LL DIE... THE KID WILL DIE FOR SURE!
GET IT TOGETHER, MAYA... YOU HAVE TO STOP THIS, NOW!
GRAAAAH!

GLUB
SPLASH
oopsie!

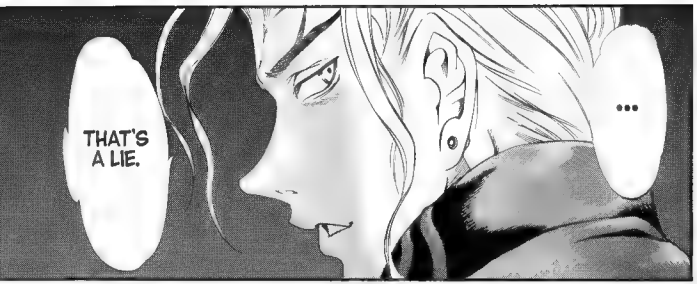
WHOA, HOT HOT HOT! THAT'S SOME FEVER YOU'VE GOT GOING THERE. BETTER COOL IT DOWN QUICK.
YOU PRACTICALLY HAD STEAM COMING OUT OF YOUR MOUTH, DUMBASS.
...
BUNSHICHI!!

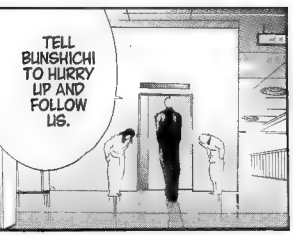
WHY... HAVE YOU SHOWN UP NOW...?
IF YOU'D BEEN LEADING THE TEAM FROM THE BEGINNING THIS WOULDN'T HAVE—
ARE YOU THICK? I ONLY JOINED THE COUNCIL BECAUSE YOU SAID I WOULDN'T HAVE TO ACTUALLY DO ANYTHING.
Gimme a break.
ANYWAY, ARE YOU ALL GOING TO HIGH SCHOOL IN SOME ALTERNATE UNI-VERSE?
KILLING PEOPLE, DEMONS, ET-FUCKING-CETERA. WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU GUYS?
I MEAN, C'MON. LOOK AT THIS CUTE, WIDDLE FROSH HERE.
STROKE
TRY NOT TO BULLY HIM SO MUCH, "SENPAI."
!!
...KID!
HE DIDN'T MEAN IT. HE WAS JUST INSTINCTIVELY REACTING TO YOUR BLOODLUST. WEREN'T YA, BOY?
SEE? HE BEHAVES HIMSELF AROUND A NICE GUY LIKE ME.
NOOGIE
NOOGIE

I JUST SAVED YOUR SORRY ASS!
WHAT THE FUCK D'YOU DO THAT FOR, BRAT?!
BOP
BOP
SLAP
BUAH!
SMACK

MITSU-OMI!
!!
Sigh...
FHIP
BOP
BOP
BOP

IF I HADN'T BEEN INJURED, I WOULD HAVE FOUGHT YOU MYSELF.
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA.
I'M NOT TRYING TO REENACT THE PAST.


THAT'S A LIE.
...


TELL BUNSHICHI TO HURRY UP AND FOLLOW US.

KAGURA-ZAKA'S WAITING DOWNSTAIRS.
WE'RE WITH-DRAWING FOR NOW.
IT'S BEEN THREE MINUTES.

...
YOU'LL PAY, BRAT!
DIE!!
BOMP
BOMP

WHY DO BOB AND NAGI HAVE TO FIGHT SO HARD THAT THEY'RE BEATEN TO A PULP?!
THIS ISN'T... THIS ISN'T ALL BECAUSE OF YOU, IS IT?
WHAT IS GOING ON? WHAT IS ALL THIS?
MAYA!
AND WHY DO WE HAVE TO BE A PART OF IT?!
WHAT IS THIS FIGHT ALL ABOUT?!
ANSWER ME!

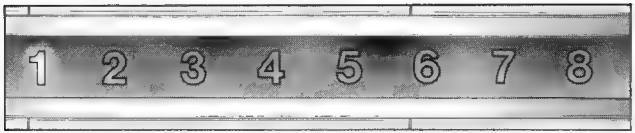
FIGHT:21

THAT GUY THEY'RE CALLING THE CHAIRMAN USED TO BE YOUR BOYFRIEND, RIGHT?
WHY?!
ANSWER ME, MAYA!
SO WHAT IS THIS? JUST A BIG BLOW-UP WITH YOUR EX?
IS THAT WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT? UNBELIEVABLE! WE LOOK LIKE JERKS!
FOR THE BOYS TO GET BEATEN LIKE THIS...
SURE, MAYBE THEY TOOK IT A LITTLE TOO FAR WHEN THEY ENTERED THE SCHOOL BUT...
...THEY NEVER WOULD'VE GOT INVOLVED IN SOMETHING THIS TERRIBLE IF IT WASN'T FOR YOU!

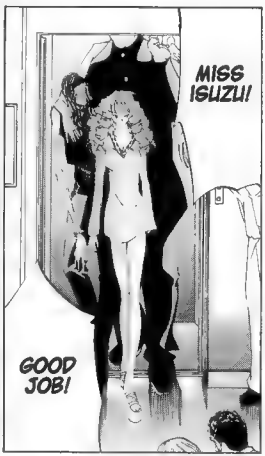
IF IT WASN'T FOR YOU...
AND...
MAYBE... MAYBE THAT RYUZAKI GUY...
AND ME, TOO...
...WOULDN'T HAVE R-RAPED...

...
UH...
UHHH...

THEY NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE WHOLE THING BETWEEN YOU AND MITSUOMI.
YOU GOTTA TELL 'EM.
ALL OF IT.
THEY NEED TO KNOW THAT THIS ISN'T ABOUT SOMETHING SO SIMPLE.
BEING EXES OR...
...IN LOVE OR LUST.


1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

WE FORCED THE EMPLOYEES HERE TO SAY THAT WE RENTED OUT THE WHOLE PLACE FOR A BOWLING TOURNAMENT.
THERE'RE A FEW OUT FRONT, BUT IT SHOULD BE FINE.
WHERE ARE THE POLICE?
GIVE THEM PLENTY OF MONEY FOR THE REPAIRS AND FOR THE... TROUBLE. THE ISUZU FAMILY WILL COVER IT.


MISS ISUZU!
GOOD JOB!

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR MITSUOMI, HE'S STILL UPSTAIRS.
KAGURA-ZAKA!
HE'S HAVING ME WARM HIS BIKE UP FOR HIM. WHAT AM I, HIS MAID?

VRR
VRR
VRR
VRR

!!
YOUR FACE... WHO DID THAT TO YOU?
...
IT'S NOT LIKE I LOST, BUT...
SWP
STILL, IT WAS SUCH A PAIN IN MY ASS!
I HAD TO GO UP AGAINST JUNIOR.
ZAA
AND NOW I'LL SHOW YOU...
...WHY YOU SHOULD BE AFRAID OF ME.
HMPH!

GAWD, WHAT AN OBVIOUS FEINT...
SO HIS NEXT MOVE'LL BE...
SWAK
SWAK
SWAK

I SAW RIGHT THROUGH THAT, SWEETIE!
How dumb are you?
ZH SH
BOK
GRP

SWAP

WH
ZWNGH
BAM
SKREE

ZAA
UNGH!
TOP

AHH...
SHIVR
BKAM

KRAK
hff
BAM
hff
hff
THUD
MITSU-OMI, WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOU SAID I COULD FIGHT HIM!
YOU'RE CUTTING IN ON ME!
WHOK
YOU AL-READY LOST.
KNOW YOUR PLACE.
GSHH

YOU'RE NOTHING YET.
YOU NEED TO BECOME STRONGER.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE MESSED UP MY SKIN LIKE THIS...
OOH, I'M SO MAD AT THAT JERK. AND I AM STRONG!
AND THAT'S WHAT HE SAID!
JUST WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS?

...
YOU'RE CAPTAIN OF THE BODY-GUARD SQUAD, RIGHT?
This better not leave a mark...
SO MITSUOMI ...
...FOUGHT BOTH BOB AND MASATAKA ...
...AND NOW HE'S FIGHTING THREE OTHERS BY HIMSELF WHILE YOU'RE OUT HERE SITTING PRETTY?
SO WHAT ?
IT'S MITSU-OMI. HE'LL BE FINE.
HE SAID HE'D TAKE CARE OF THEM IN THREE MINUTES.
!!

YOU STUPID FUCKING TRANNY!
HOW WORTH-LESS COULD YOU FUCKING BE?!
WHY DO YOU THINK HE HAS A PERSONAL BODYGUARD SQUAD?!
I NEVER SHOULD HAVE PUT THAT IDIOT IN CHARGE OF PROTECTING MITSUOMI.
Move it!
Hey!
SHIT!
What's up?
WHAT A USELESS PIECE OF TRASH!
WHAT'S HER PROBLEM?
That was so...rude.
Like anything would happen to that beast.
SHUT UP! IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO MITSUOMI ...
WHA... HEY, WAIT A MINUTE!
...I'LL RIP YOUR DICK OFF AND SHOVE IT DOWN YOUR THROAT!
WHY ARE YOU GIVING ME ATTITUDE? YOU LOST TOO!

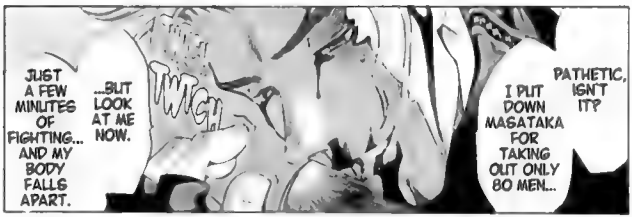
I WOULD NEVER WORRY ABOUT MITSUOMI IN A ONE-ON-ONE FIGHT, NO MATTER WHO HE WAS UP AGAINST.
!!
JUST AS LONG...
...AS IT'S A ONE-ON-ONE.
ILET

IT'S IGUZU.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
TAP
GRIP
TOILET
...
IS THE WITH-DRAWAL COM-PLETE?
IT'S ALMOST DONE.
TWO YEARS AGO...
...MITSUOMI KILLED MY BROTHER.
THERE'S HARDLY ANYBODY LEFT.
IT WASN'T A NORMAL FIGHT.
THEY WERE TRYING TO KILL EACH OTHER.
MY BROTHER LOST...
...AND DIED INSTANT-LY.

TOILET
BUT THAT WAS ALSO THE MOMENT WHEN...
...MY BROTHER KILLED MITSUOMI.

BUT THAT'S ALL THAT'S LEFT TO HIM...
HE HASN'T SUCCUMBED TO DEATH YET.
TO NOT BE DEAD YET.
HE DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME LEFT TO BE DISCRIMINATING ABOUT THE METHODS HE USES TO ACHIEVE HIS GOALS.
AND THAT MEANS...
...THAT I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT EITHER.
I HAVE TO...
...SETTLE EVERYTHING FOR GOOD...
...WHILE HE'S STILL ALIVE.

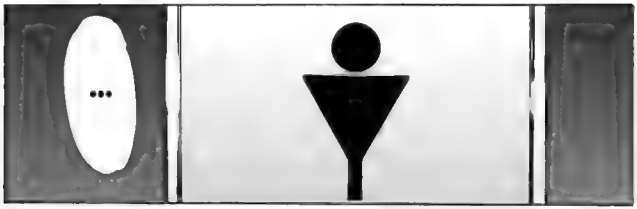
I OWE... BUNSHICHI.
IF THE FIGHT HAD CON-TINUED... I MIGHT HAVE LOST.


JUST A FEW MINUTES OF FIGHTING... AND MY BODY FALLS APART.
...BUT LOOK AT ME NOW.
TWIST!
I PUT DOWN MASATAKA FOR TAKING OUT ONLY 80 MEN...
PATHETIC, ISN'T IT?

...THAT KID GOT WELL AND TRULY PISSED OFF.
THINKING BACK ON IT... WHEN HE SAW ME THRASHING MASATAKA...

HE REALLY ISN'T SUITED TO SERVE THE TAKAYANAGI FAMILY.
SHFT...
...MASA-TAKA IS GAINING POWERFUL ALLIES.
JUST BY DOING THINGS HIS OWN WAY...
...HOW TO DO THINGS LIKE THAT.
MY FATHER NEVER TAUGHT ME...
YOU HAVE LIS.
...

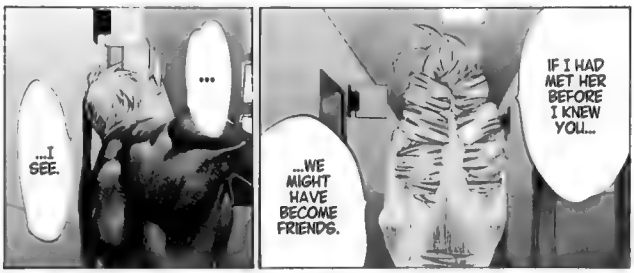
SO PLEASE, YOU MUST CONTINUE TO LIVE. FOR OUR SAKE...
...AND FOR YOURSELF.
EVEN IF IT'S JUST FOR ONE MORE DAY!
IF YOU ASKED US TO DIE FOR YOU, WE'D DO IT.
MYSELF, TAGAMI... ALL OF US WHO GLADLY, WILLINGLY SUPPORT YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY.
YOU ARE THE POWER THAT BINDS US TOGETHER.
AND UNTIL THAT DAY COMES...
...I'LL PROTECT YOU WITH EVERY-THING I HAVE.


...

I'M COMING OUT.
COULD YOU...LOOK THE OTHER WAY?
Y-YES, SIR!
MAY I ENTER?
NO...

THUD
KREE

MITSU-
OMI...
MAYA NATSUME WAS A VERY STRONG WOMAN.


...
...I SEE.
IF I HAD MET HER BEFORE I KNEW YOU...
...WE MIGHT HAVE BECOME FRIENDS.

FWIP
TOMP

TOMP
TMP
TMP
I WISH I HAD MET YOU BEFORE I KNEW HER.
TOMP
TOMP
TOMP
IT'S THE SAME FOR ME.

WAKE LLLLLP!!
SLAP
WHAK
KRAK
BAM
BAM
CHAK

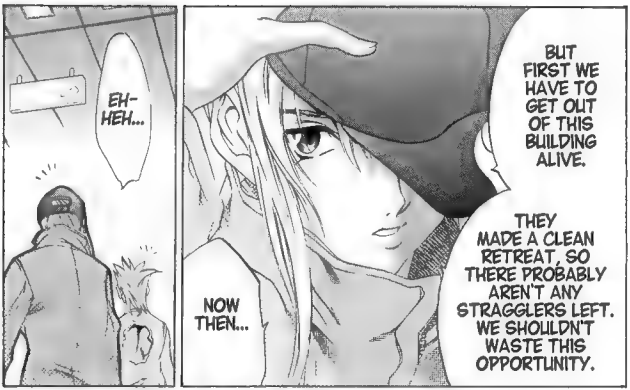
HEY! TIME TO OPEN THOSE EYES, KID!
HUH. HE'S NOT COMING TO, FOR SOME REASON.
WHAP
SMAK
OH?
GRIP
I ABSO-LUTELY CANNOT LET AYA SEE THIS...

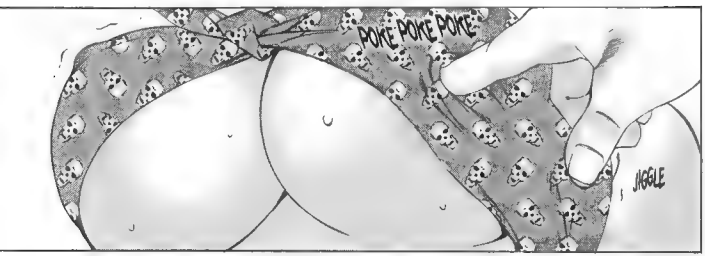
KA
GHRF!
BOK
HAH ?!
WHAT THE FUCK D'YOU THINK YOU'RE DOIN', OLD MAN?
THAT HURT, YOU BASTARD !!

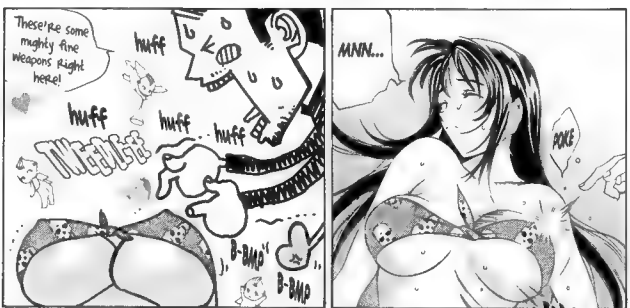
PRETTY WEAK. THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU, TAKA-YANAGI.
SHEESH.
THWP
UHH...
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOUR HEAD?!
This isn't JoJo's!
AND WHERE'D DIO GO?
WHERE'S DIO AT?!
GLANCE
HANG ON.
WHERE AM I?
GLANCE
SHFL
SHFL
SHFL
SHFL
SHFL
SHFL

!!
SLAP
DON'T TOUCH HIM!
AH...
HUH?
HOW'S THE FOREIGN-ER? STILL ASLEEP?
LET ME TAKE A LOOK.

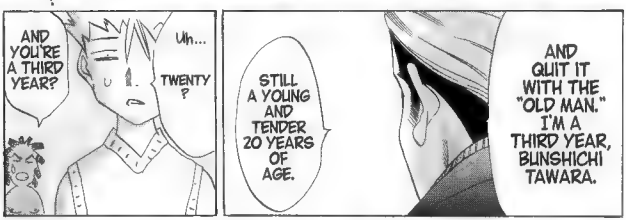
...
I HEARD YOU GUYS TALKIN' ...
BOB!!
HEY... BEEN AWAKE FOR A WHILE NOW, BUT... I CAN'T MOVE...
BOB... YOU NEED TO QUIT THIS CLUB.
ENOUGH ALREADY. QUIT THIS SCHOOL AND COME TO MINE.
THAT MIGHT BE FOR THE BEST...
!!


EH-HEH...
NOW THEN...
BUT FIRST WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF THIS BUILDING ALIVE.
THEY MADE A CLEAN RETREAT, SO THERE PROBABLY AREN'T ANY STRAGGLERS LEFT. WE SHOULDN'T WASTE THIS OPPORTUNITY.


POKE POKE POKE
JIGGLE


These're some mighty fine weapons right here!
huff
huff
huff
huff
B-BMP
B-BMP
MNN...
POKE
BOING

Nagi
QUIET, KID. I'M ABOUT TO TRAVEL TO THE FAR REACHES OF THE FEMALE UNIVERSE.
I HEARD JUMPIN' INTO THE SEA WITH BRICKS TIED TO YOUR LEGS IS A LOT OF FUN.
WANNA GO FOR A SWIM?
YOU LOOKIN' TO DIE, OLD MAN?
OI. OLD. MAN.
TAP
TAP
TWITCH
TWITCH
POKE
POKE

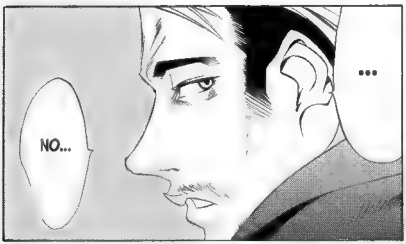

AND YOU'RE A THIRD YEAR?
Uh...
TWENTY ?
STILL A YOUNG AND TENDER 20 YEARS OF AGE.
AND QUIT IT WITH THE "OLD MAN." I'M A THIRD YEAR, SHINSHICHI TAWARA.

KRAKL
PEOPLE CALL ME... DOUBLE IMPACT TAWARA!
NOT TO BRAG, BUT THIS IS MY THIRD YEAR AS A THIRD YEAR!
SO SHOW SOME RESPECT, PUNK!
And that's Mr. Tawara to you!

BWAHAHAHAHAH
Stop it... Don't make me laugh
WHAT A DUMBASS! A TOTAL DUMBTARD!
SOMEONE DUMBER THAN US, EVEN!
Can't... laugh... it's rude
SHIP
Go ahead and laugh
It's makin' my body hurt...
SHIP

DID MY BROTHER SAY ANY-THING?
ABOUT... ME?

MR. TA-WARA ...
YO!


...
NO...

RIGHT...
IT LOOKS LIKE AYA HAS A MINOR CONCUSSION. WE SHOULD LET HER REST.
WILL SOMEONE CARRY HER HOME?
OH...
I CAN—
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. YOU'RE INJURED, YOU SHOULDN'T STRAIN YOURSELF.
NOW FUCK OFF.
GLEAM
WHUMP
GLAH!

SO I LET YOU GO AFTER THE GLORY, AND INSTEAD YOU BLEW IT BIG TIME.
...I REMEMBER TELLIN' YOU TO FIGURE THINGS OUT FOR REAL.
BEFORE YOU WENT UPSTAIRS TO FIGHT...

THE BATTLE ON THAT NIGHT...
YOU HAVE NO FUCKING IDEA WHAT I WAS UP AGAINST.
SHUT UP.

...LASTED ONLY ABOUT 30 MINUTES.
They might be waitin' for us there too
The back exit's this way?
BUT WITH OVER 100 INJURED ON BOTH SIDES, IT WAS ONE OF THE BIGGEST FIGHTS IN SCHOOL HISTORY.
Thank you!
AT THE TIME, I DIDN'T KNOW WHY MY BROTHER HAD CREATED THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, OR FOR WHAT PURPOSE.
BUT I DID UNDERSTAND THAT HE WAS TRYING TO ARRIVE AT SOME KIND OF ANSWER WHILE HE WAS STILL ALIVE.

IRONICALLY, THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THE JUKEN CLUB WOULD SERVE AS A JUSTIFICATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO CONSOLIDATE ITS POWER.
...THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WOULD STRENGTHEN THEIR GUARD AND CONTINUE TO TREAT US AS AN ENEMY.
ONCE AGAIN SENSING A THREAT FROM THE JUKEN CLUB...

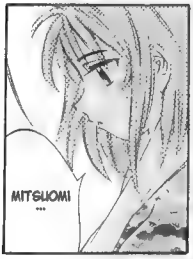
...AGAINST THEIR 200 WERE NOTHING MORE THAN PAWNS SCATTERED ACROSS THE BOARD.
AND JUST THE FIVE OF US...
WE LOST THAT DAY.

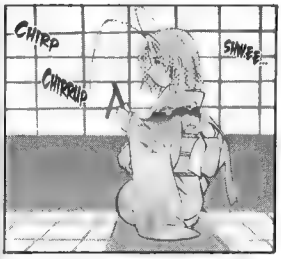
FIGHT:22

SH
AA
AAAA

SHAAAA

CHIRP
CHIRRUP
SNIFF...
...ALREADY HERE...
SUM-MER'S...


MITSUOMI
...


CHIRP
CHIRRUP
SNIFF...

WH-WHAT IS IT, AYA?! I THOUGHT YOU WERE OFF BATHING!
ooh...
Mitsuomi...
IF I CAN SNEAK UP ON YOU FROM BEHIND LIKE THAT...
...IT MUST MEAN YOU NEED MORE TRAINING, MAYA. ♡
BETTER START GETTING READY.
OR YOU'LL BE LATE.
SWIP
OWW!!
THUD
SLAP
FWAP
TIME TO GET READY, AYA.
OW... OWIE...
YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE.

FUAH...
YA
RRRRIII
WN
IIIIIING

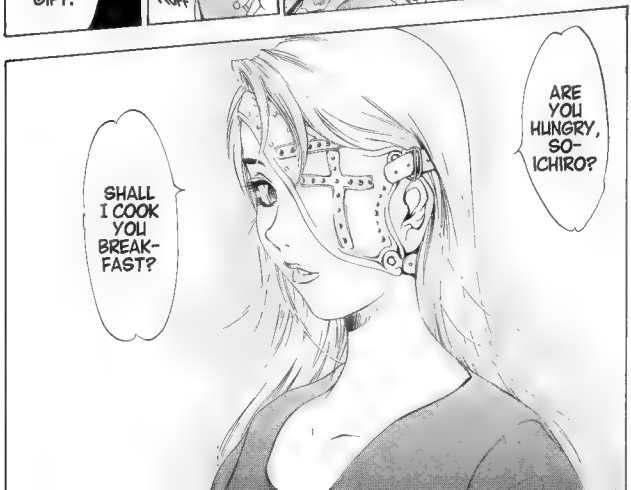
HUH?

BAM
IT'S ONLY EIGHT... SHEE-IT.
WHY'S IT GOIN' OFF NOW?
RING
RING

R
ING

Gyagh!
THWUD

NGGH...
GOOD... AIM... CAN'T... BREATHE...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "ONLY" EIGHT? IT'S "ALREADY" EIGHT!
WH... WHEN'D YOU GET BACK...?
KOFF
JUST NOW.
I BROUGHT THE WATER-MELON AS A GIFT.


ARE YOU HUNGRY, SO-ICHIRO?
SHALL I COOK YOU BREAK-FAST?

ANYWAY, SOICHIRÓ ...
What a mess
I'M FINE.

YOU... YOU'RE INJURED AGAIN.
GO GET SOME REST.
I CAN MAKE SOMETHING MYSELF.

...YOU...
...FELL IN LOVE WITH A GIRL, DIDN'T YOU?

I CAN SEE A DRAGON.

HUH?

FULL...
TRMBL...
NGH...
Ugh... This is pretty heavy...
...'KAY.
YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE YOUR OWN DINNER.
MASA-TAKA.
THERE'S AN EVENT TONIGHT, SO I'LL BE HOME LATE.

I HEARD YOU GOT INTO A SCUFFLE WITH MITSUOMI.
WE NO LONGER HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE MAIN FAMILY.
I WON'T OVERLOOK IT NEXT TIME.
...

BY THE WAY...
DID YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH A GIRL OR SOMETHING?
HUH?!

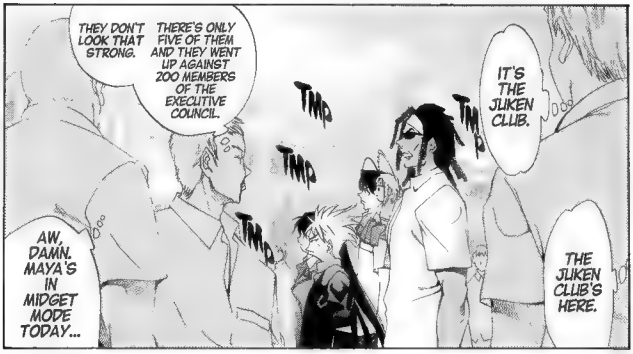
AHHHHH!
Don't say it!
RECENTLY EVERY TIME I GO TO THE LAUNDRY I SEE THESE YELLOWISH STAINS ON YOUR UNDERWEAR.

AHH...
MM...
GSSH
GSSH
AHH...
AHH
!!
YESSS!
GSSH
CHIAKI... IT'S GETTING LATE.
YES...
AH...
THRIST
THRIST
THRIST
LINH!

I'VE... ALREADY DECIDED.
IT... IT'S OKAY...
DECIDED WHAT?
SINCE WHEN DO YOU CARE ABOUT GETTING TO SCHOOL ON TIME?
NO, NOT ME. I MEAN YOU.
I'M GONNA QUIT SCHOOL AND WORK.
Hadn
I'LL SUPPORT YOU, BOB.
SO YOU CAN STOP GOING TO SCHOOL TOO.
Hadn
YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT ALL THE FIGHTING AND THE HURTING... AND... HEE HEE...
...EVERY DAY WE CAN FUCK AND SLEEP IN UNTIL NOON. DOESN'T THAT SOUND BETTER?
Hadn
OOOH!! ♡
BUT I'M SERI—
DON'T SAY DUMB SHIT LIKE
OH! ♡
THAT!

SO-ICHIRO, ISN'T IT TOO HOT FOR THAT COAT?
I GOTTA REPRE-SENT.
COME OOON, BOB! ♡
WE'LL FINISH THIS TONIGHT!
Ooh... MITSUOMI...
CUT IT OUT AL-READY.
Look look, it's Masa-taka.
Ooh!
Maybee today's my lucky day!
Feh.
Uh... umm... G-good morning
Morning, senpai! ♡
YEAH... GOOD MORNING ...
?
COMO
COMO

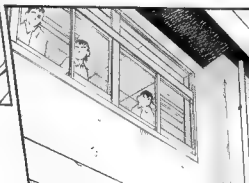
LAN


THEY DON'T LOOK THAT STRONG.
THERE'S ONLY FIVE OF THEM AND THEY WENT UP AGAINST 200 MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.
IT'S THE JUKEN CLUB.
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
AW, DAMN. MAYA'S IN MIDGET MODE TODAY...
THE JUKEN CLUB'S HERE.

IT JUST MEANS YOU'LL BE AN EVEN BIGGER TARGET THAN YOU WERE BEFORE. FROM NOW ON, YOU CAN NEVER LET YOUR GUARD DOWN. THE TRAINING'S JUST BEGINNING, BOYS.
LOOK OVER THERE.

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE FAMOUS, BOB.
YEAH?
HELL, YEAH!

FWEEOO !!
WHOA...
HUH... LOOKS LIKE WE'RE NOT GONNA BE BORED FOR A WHILE.



GOOD MORNING, MASTER TODO.
WHO'S THE GEEZER?
Looks like a politician.
FOOL! HE'S AN INSTRUC-TOR. A TEACHER AT THIS SCHOOL!
DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?
MISS NAT-SUME.
HRMM.
SHALL WE GO?
I FIGURED YOU'D COME FOR ME SOON.
This school has teachers?
Wow
Yeah, first time I'm seeing one.
Sure are a lot of new characters lately
...? YEAH, SURE.
SO DON'T BE LATE FOR THE MEETING.
I HAVE SOME IMPOR-TANT THINGS TO TELL YOU LATER TODAY.
LISTEN UP!

TROMP
TROMP
FWIP
NNGH
FWIP
GLARE
CUT IT OUT, YOU'RE BEIN' A TOOL.
LOOKS LIKE THERE AIN'T ANY FIRST YEARS WITH ENOUGH BALLS TO MESS WITH US.
GYA HA HA! MAN, THIS'S SWEET.
TOMP
TOMP.

CHECK IT OUT...
LOOKS LIKE THERE'S AT LEAST ONE GUY LEFT WITH SOME BALLS.
YUP! ♡
OH, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE. THAT DIDN'T TAKE LONG.
THAT BOY'S NAME IS... KANAKITA, I BELIEVE. A DISCIPLE OF THE NORTH STAR SWORD STYLE.
KENDO CLUB #3 HAS HIGH HOPES FOR HIM.

SO WHAT'S GOING ON?
CARE TO TELL ME, NATSUME?
YOUR CLUB SENT ABOUT HALF THEIR MEMBERS TO THE HOSPITAL DURING THAT BOWLING ALLEY BRAWL.
YOU DID THAT TO A LOT OF CLUBS, IN FACT.
YOU CAN EXPECT THIS KIND OF RETALIATION EVERY DAY FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.
IT WAS THE THING WITH RYUZAKI ...
I TOOK HIM DOWN, AND IN DOING SO I DEFIED THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S DECISION.
THE COUNCIL PERCEIVED THIS AS AN ACT OF REBELLION, AND THAT'S WHAT TRIGGERED THE CURRENT CONFLICT.
IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
HRMM...
DO YOU AGREE?
EVEN IF I'M PUNISHED, IT WON'T BE ENOUGH TO SATISFY EVERYONE.
BUT IT SHOULD LESSEN THE KIND OF PERSONAL REPRISALS WE'RE SEEING TODAY.
HRMM...

HOW-EVER, I ADVISE YOU...
...TO PREPARE FOR THE WORST.
SO YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT A BIT.
THE OTHER MASTERS ARE CURRENTLY MEETING TO DECIDE ON APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY MEASURES.
...
...PREPARE FOR THE VERY WORST.
YOU GUYS BETTER ...
HEY, HEY, HEY, HEY, HEY!
Fwee♪
WOW, THAT'S SO BUSHIDO OF YOU, MAN.
YOU JUST LOST THE ONE-PERCENT CHANCE YOU HAD OF WINNING.
THANKS, DUMB-FUCK.
SHAP
I TAKE NO PLEASURE IN DEFEATING DEFENSELESS OPPONENTS. ♡
SOME LITTLE GIFTS FROM ME.
I'M NOT THAT HONOR-ABLE...
HEY, HEY, HEY, HEY.

SHAK
MY SWORD'S A REAL ONE.
BUT DON'T WORRY, I'LL AVOID YOUR VITALS.
SO JUST RELAX AND LET ME CUT YOU UP LITTLE.
NEVER MIND, I TAKE IT BACK...
HE DOESN'T HAVE BALLS. HE'S JUST FUCKED IN THE HEAD.
HYAAA!
WHOA! WATCH OUT!
IF YOU HOLD STILL, IT'LL BE OVER IN A SECOND. ♡
Leave it all to me.
IF YOU RESIST, IT'LL JUST HURT MORE.
SLASH
SLASH
SLASH

WHO THE FUCK D'YOU THINK YOU ARE?!
YAAA!
SLASH
CHOK
HEY, SOICHIRO! EXORCISING DEMONS IS YOUR FAMILY'S THING!
SO DO SOME-THIN' ABOUT THIS KAPPA*!
WHADDYA WANT ME TO DO?! YOU DO SOMETHIN'!
DON'T YOU HAVE THAT SPECIAL ATTACK, YA MORON?!
THAT LONG-RANGE ONE! THE NEEDLE-WHATEVER THING!
Fuck!!
OH, RIGHT.

*KAPPA=A TYPE OF DEMON

YOU GOT IT!
THESE KINDS OF CLICHÉ SCENES DEMAND THAT YOU RISK YOUR LIFE TO BUY ME THAT TIME.
FOR THIS MOVE, I REQUIRE TIME TO FOCUS MY KI.
Like 20 seconds.
KRAK
FLEX
FLEX
FUCK THIS. I'M OUT.
HUH? HEY, GET BACK HERE!
HEEEY!!
SWIK
TH
OK
!!

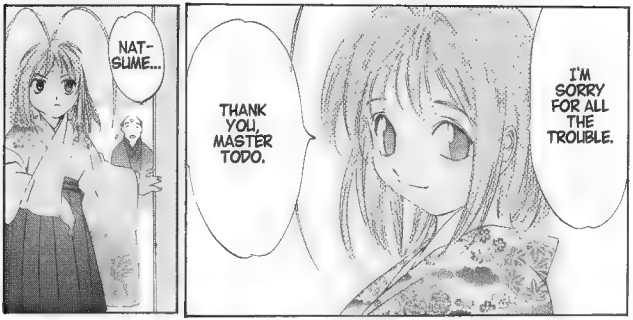
...I'LL GO EASY ON YOU AND JUST TAKE AN ARM.
MY SENPAI SAID I COULD JUST PRETEND IT WAS AN ACCIDENT IF I KILLED YOU GUYS, BUT...
I AM A NICE GUY, AFTER ALL. ♡
THIS KAPPA REALLY IS FUCKED IN THE HEAD!
I AM IN SERIOUS TROUBLE!
SKREEE
SOICHIRO!!

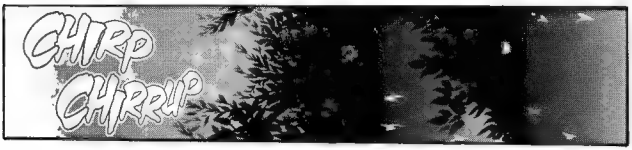
HMPH! YOU THINK THAT'LL FAZE ME?!
I'LL JUST TAKE OUT YOUR LEGS!
THOK
SLASH
WHA—?!
OUTTA THE WAY!
Don't just freeze up, dipshit!

SOMEONE LIKE KANAKITA COULD NEVER STOP ONE OF YOUR KICKS.
That's what you get for runnin' off.
He stabbed me! He stabbed me!
Oh my god!

WELL DONE!
YES!
SWAP
EVEN IF THE OPPONENT HAS A SWORD, IT'S NOTHING BUT A STICK WHEN WIELDED AGAINST DOMINANT POWER AND SKILL.

YES.
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
...AND THAT IS THE CONSENSUS DECISION OF THE MASTERS.



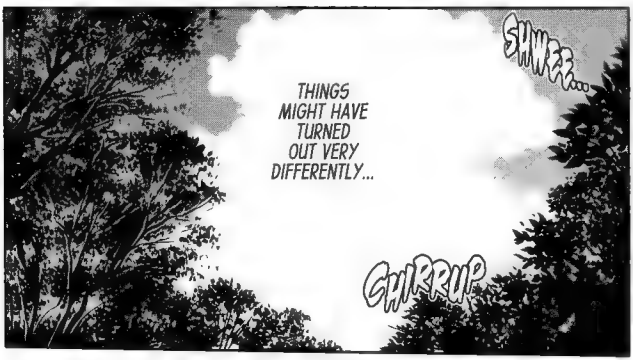


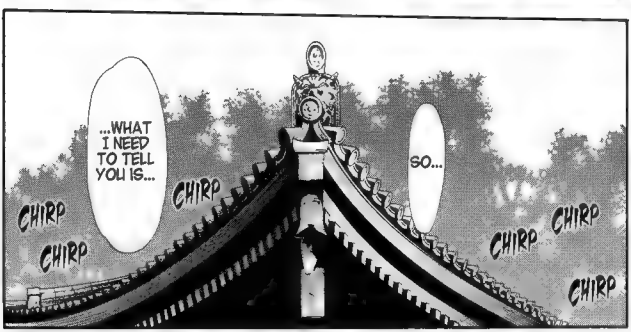
THE LEVEL OF IMPROVEMENT AMONG THE CLUB MEMBERS IS QUITE IMPRESSIVE.

AND THAT'S NOT DUE TO MY INSTRUCTION.

THEIR OWN TALENTS ARE EMERGING AS THEY THROW THEMSELVES INTO THE STORM OF REAL COMBAT.

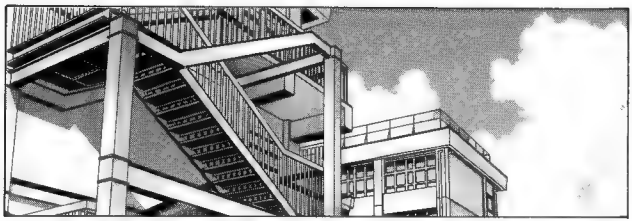
IT'S TOO BAD.
IF THEY HAD COME TO THIS SCHOOL ...
...TWO... NO, ONE YEAR AGO...

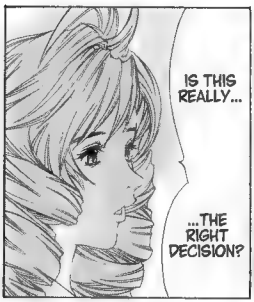

SIIIIIIZZ...
THINGS MIGHT HAVE TURNED OUT VERY DIFFERENTLY...
CHIRRUP


...WHAT I NEED TO TELL YOU IS...
SO...
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP

WHAT?!
YOU...
YOU'VE BEEN...
...EXPELLED ?!

OOOF
DEN?




IS THIS REALLY...
...THE RIGHT DECISION?

NATSUME'S EXPULSION HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED.

MIN
MIN
MIN
MIN
MIN

HOWEVER, IF YOU LOOK AT THE EXISTENCE OF THE KEHAYA SUMO STYLE AND THE KONGO TAIHO MENTIONED IN THE KOJIKI CHRONICLES...
...THE DAITO STYLE IS WELL KNOWN AS OUR COUNTRY'S MOST ANCIENT MARTIAL ART AND IS SAID TO BE THE BASIS FOR MOST SUBSEQUENT STYLES.
AS YOU CAN SEE...

...IT'S HIGHLY POSSIBLE THAT MANY MARTIAL ART FORMS WERE INTRODUCED FROM FOREIGN LANDS AT AN EARLY POINT IN HISTORY.
NEXT WE'LL FOCUS ON...
I can't see

WHAT ...?
EX-PELLED ...?
...
SO IT'S BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED AT THE BOWLING ALLEY?
WHAT FOR?
YOU GOT CAUGHT SHOPLIFTING AT THE STUDENT STORE?
I feel ya. The lady's always sleeping on the job. It's hard to resist.
DON'T YOU DARE ASCRIBE THE SAME MOTIVES TO ME, CRETIN!
...I FOUND IT STRANGE THAT THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HADN'T RESORTED TO SOMETHING LIKE THIS EARLIER.
TO BE HONEST...
THAT'S NOT IT.
THIS IS SOMETHING I'VE BEEN EXPECTING FOR A WHILE.

NOT ONLY THAT, THEY'RE EVEN SHOWING ME SOME MERCY.
INSTEAD OF KICKING ME OUT, THEY'RE LETTING ME WITHDRAW VOLUNTARILY.
SO I GET TO STAY ON FOR THE REST OF THE TERM.
...
THERE'S BARELY A MONTH LEFT, BUT...
...I PLAN TO DO EVERYTHING I CAN IN THAT TIME.
...
HOW'S THE WEATHER OUT THERE, KID? NICE?
YOU DECIDE TO SHOW UP TO MY CLASS FOR THE FIRST TIME AND THEN SPEND THE WHOLE PERIOD STARING OUT THE WINDOW?
REPEAT WHAT I JUST EXPLAINED.
I WASN'T LISTENING, SO I DON'T HAVE A FLICKIN' CLUE.

THANKS TO YOU, THE SCHOOL HAS ONE LESS DESK.
NOW LOOK WHAT YOU DID.
KLANG
KRIK
KRIK.
KRAK
THUNK
GRRR
I CAN ALSO MAKE IT SO THAT YOU HAVE ONE LESS FACE.
I DARE YOU.
DIS-RESPECT ME ONE MORE TIME, KID.

Really?
He's single, he can't help it.
Tee hee
YOU... YOU GOTTA LOT OF GUTS, PUNK.
WHAT?!
IT KINDA SMELLS LIKE SQUID.
YOU MIND LETTIN' GO OF ME NOW?
SORRY, BUT YOUR RIGHT HAND...

IT'S SO SAD THAT SHE'S LETTING HERSELF GET THROWN OUT JUST TO PROTECT YOU TWO CLOWNS.
I FEEL BAD FOR NAT-SUME.
HMPH!
GIVE IT UP, SOICHIRO.

FWAP
WHAT'S WITH THE STINK EYE?
BULGE
BULGE
IF YOU THINK THE MASTERS IN THIS SCHOOL ARE JUST NORMAL TEACHERS, YOU GOT ANOTHER THING COMING.

FLEX
HRRNH!!
RIP
KLAT
RRIP
OOH
BOOMF
RIP
NRGH!
RIP
RIP
Oh, yeah ?!
HNRG!!
HRAH!
RIP
RUMMBBL
FLEX
FLEX
FLEX
THIS IS GETTING BEYOND DUMB.
STOP IT, BOB.

ANYWAY...
IS WHAT YOU JUST SAID TRUE?

IS THE MIDGET...
...REALLY LEAVING TO COVER FOR US?

You deaf?
DOES THAT SOUND LIKE "CAW CAW" TO YOU?
HEY, BOB. WHAT D'YOU THINK IT IS?
KEE...
KEEEEEE
LOOK, A HAWK.
OR IS IT A CROW?
WHAT WITH CHIAKI BEIN' SO UPSET AND ALL.
TO BE HONEST...
THIS MIGHT BE GOOD TIMING FOR ME.
HEY, BOB. THAT'S GOTTA BE A CROW.
FINE, THEN IT'S A CROW.
SHE HAD TO HIDE HER TEARS OF JOY WHEN MY ACCEPT-ANCE LETTER CAME.
WELL, I'M SCREWED.
MY MOM NEVER THOUGHT I COULD GET INTO ANY HIGH SCHOOL.

Kobayakawa General Hospital
HERE YOU GO, TSUTOMU. I PEELED THIS APPLE FOR YOU.
SAY "AH." ♡
THANKS.
I SURE WAS SURPRISED WHEN I HEARD YOU WERE SENT TO THE HOSPITAL.
WHATEVER YOU WANT, BABY.
SHOULD I PLAY NAUGHTY NURSE FOR YOU?
YOU'RE CUTE WHEN YOU CAN'T MOVE.
IF YOU'RE GONNA BE NAUGHTY, DO IT DOWN HERE.
IT'S THE ONLY PART OF ME THAT WASN'T HIT.
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE READY TO PLAY RIGHT NOW!
HEH HEH
HA HA HA! OH, STOP IT!
SLAP
YEAH, LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE JUST FINE.
!!
WE WERE WORRIED FOR NOTHING.
...
YOU...

KRAK
KRAK
KRANK
KRANK
THAT'S GREAT. WE DON'T HAVE TO HOLD BACK.

YOU IDIOTS WERE THE ONES WHO STARTED THINGS!
YEAH!
BESIDES, I WAS ORDERED BY THE BOSS. I HAD NO CHOICE.
C'MON, NOW. I'M ALL BEAT UP HERE.
HEY! WHO ARE YOU?!
STUPID JERKS!
MESS WITH TSUTOMU AND WE'LL KICK YOUR ASS!

WAIT!
WHAT?!
ENJOY THE REST OF YOUR SHORT LIFE, TSUTOMU.
RIGHT, SEE YA.
SHF
SHF

GET LOST, BITCH.
'LESS YOU WANT ME TO FIX IT SO YOU NEVER USE THAT PUSSY AGAIN.
GRRR

GYAAA
AAAA
MUAHAHAHAHA
HYAAAA
AAA
KEEEE...
KEEEEARR...
KEEE...

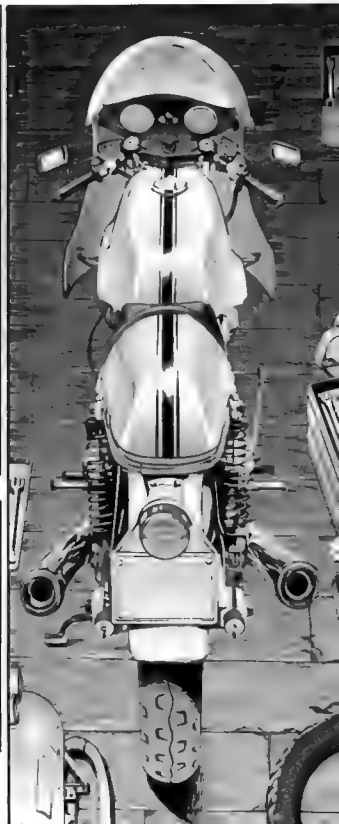
SHE...
...PROBABLY DOESN'T EVEN REALIZE THAT I'VE BEEN WATCHING HER...

Eep!
Mr. Ryuzaki ?!

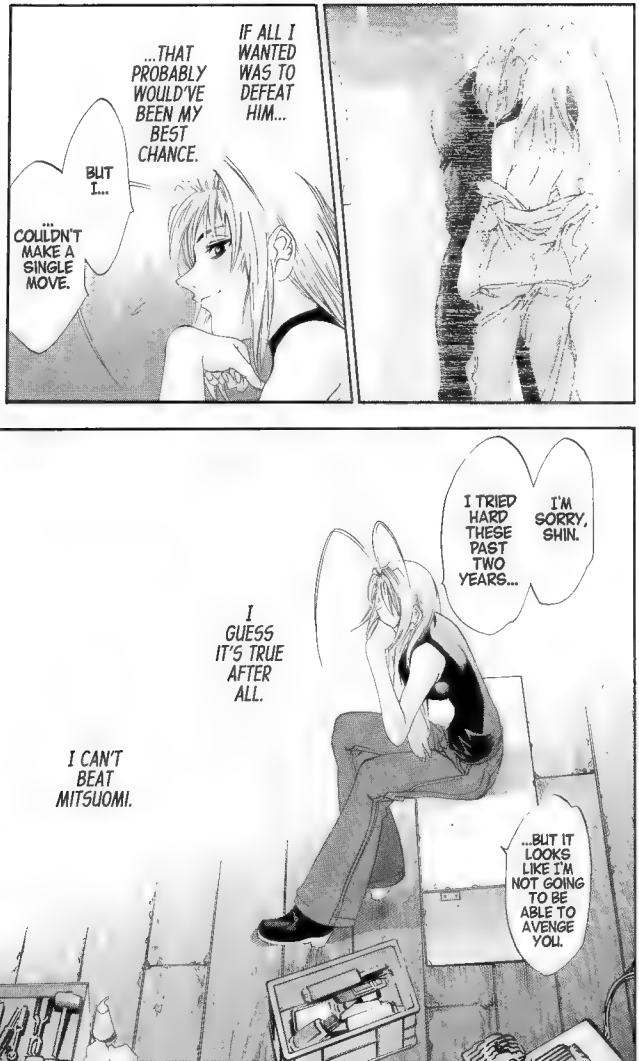
I SHOULD'VE AT LEAST CRUSHED ONE OF HIS BALLS.
THAT WAS NOWHERE NEAR ENOUGH.
TROMP
TROMP
SHIT. I WENT TOO EASY ON HIM...
YEAH, WELL WE MADE OUR POINT.
AND ENDED OUR HIGH-SCHOOL LIVES ON A HIGH NOTE.

I went easy on him 'cause he was hurt... Shouldn'ta held back...
MTTR
MTTR

...MAKE THINGS RIGHT?
WILL THIS...



SHIN...
ARE YOU MAD AT ME?


IF ALL I WANTED WAS TO DEFEAT HIM...
...THAT PROBABLY WOULD'VE BEEN MY BEST CHANCE.
BUT I...
...COULDN'T MAKE A SINGLE MOVE.
I'M SORRY, SHIN.
I TRIED HARD THESE PAST TWO YEARS...
I GUESS IT'S TRUE AFTER ALL.
I CAN'T BEAT MITSUOMI.
...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO AVENGE YOU.

!!
THE LOCK...
IMPOSSIBLE... I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS THAT KEY.
!!
NOTHING ELSE HAS BEEN TAKEN. THIS WASN'T A BURGLARY.
WHERE IS IT?!
KLANG
IT'S GONE!
IT'S NOT HERE!
RSTL
RSTL

...TAKEN UP...
...THAT SWORD ?!
AYA! YOU LITTLE FOOL!
HAVE YOU...
SHIK
SSSSH

...WHEN THEY SAY YOU CAN FEEL THE KI OF A SWORD.
THIS MUST BE WHAT THEY MEAN...
SHVP
...
IT'S INCREDI-BLE...

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU CAN UNSHEATH SUCH A LONG SWORD IN ONE MOTION.
WOW!
There's a trick to it.
I'VE BEEN WITHOUT A WEAPON SINCE THE MASAKIYO BLADE WAS DESTROYED.
TAP
IT'S A REALLY GREAT SWORD. ITS ORIGINS ARE UNKNOWN THOUGH.
ISN'T IT?

WELL, SHOULD WE GET GOING?
ZSSH
ZSSH
CHAK
LET'S HEAD OVER TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR A CHAT. ♡
WE'LL GET THEM TO OVERTURN MAYA'S EXPULSION BY FORCE IF WE HAVE TO.

THIS WAS...MY BROTHER'S SWORD.
DID YOU KNOW HIM? MY BROTHER, I MEAN.

NO... BY THE TIME I STARTED SCHOOL ...
...HE HAD... UH...
...ALREADY PASSED AWAY.
OH... THAT'S RIGHT... I FORGOT.
ZSH

ALTHOUGH NONE OF US REALIZED IT AT THE TIME...
WHERE THE HECK DID THOSE TWO DISAPPEAR TO ANYWAY?
And at a time like this...
OKAY...

AND YOU CAN'T SPELL WORTH SHIT EITHER.
MAN, THAT IS SOME CRAPPY HAND-WRITING.
...WE WERE STARTING TO COME TOGETHER.
Student Executive Council
...LITTLE BY LITTLE...

RR-RIIIP
SO YOU THOUGHT YOU'D GET NATSUME OFF THE HOOK IF YOU OFFERED YOURSELVES UP AS SACRIFICES INSTEAD?
THAT'S ABOUT THE KIND OF SHALLOW THINKING I'D EXPECT FROM YOU MONKEY-BRAINS.
NOW BEAT IT.

HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
Wee2
Wee2
SO THAT'S WHY...
...I HAVE TO TAKE AT LEAST ONE OF YOU DOWN WITH ME TO EVEN THINGS UP.
Huff
Huff
Huff
SHUT UP. I FIGURED OUT HOW MUCH I WAS WORTH A LONG TIME AGO.
ANYWAY, THIS IS A WHOLE HEAP OF TROUBLE MORE THAN YOUR INSIGNIFICANT SELVES ARE WORTH.
YOU REALLY THINK THIS IS WHAT NATSUME WANTS?
TRY USING THOSE PUNY BRAINS OF YOURS BEFORE YOU ACT.
YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
YOU GUYS ARE TOO WEAK.
THAT'S NOT GONNA HAPPEN.

ZA
GO GET YOUR BOSS.
I KNOW WE'RE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO TAKE YOU GUYS ON YET.
RR
MM
BB
LL
BUT YOU'RE NOT THE ONE I WANT, DROPOUT!
I KNOW ALL THAT, YOU PIECE OF SHIT.

LIKE YOU SAID, WE AIN'T TOO BRIGHT, SO...
...THIS IS THE ONLY WAY WE KNOW HOW TO SETTLE THINGS.
WOO
PEH!
OH?
RRMM
B
LL
GRRR
KRUNCH

HYAAA!
IT'S A LITTLE EARLY, BUT WE'RE HAVIN' OUR-SELVES...
KUW
SORRY FOR DRAGGIN' YOU INTO THIS, BUT...
...YOU'RE A PART OF IT WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!
...A GRADUA-TION PARTY!
HRAH!!

SHOCK
KRSH
HUH...?
TOMP
FWIP
KLANK

ALL THE ENERGY GENERATED MUST PASS THROUGH THAT SINGLE POINT IN THE BODY.
IF YOU STOP THE SHOULDER FROM ROTATING, THE ENERGY DISSIPATES.
HAAA
GRAB
THE MAJOR WEAK POINT FOR USERS OF THE FORGED NEEDLE IS THE SHOULDER.

WH
RAK
Y
STILL THINK YOU'RE A MATCH FOR US, YOU LITTLE PUNK?!

CHANK
WHOA!
ouch...
HFF

THWK
UH!
BAM
GUH

THOSE TWO COULDN'T POSSIBLY HAVE...?
SOMEONE'S FIGHTING IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE!
DASH

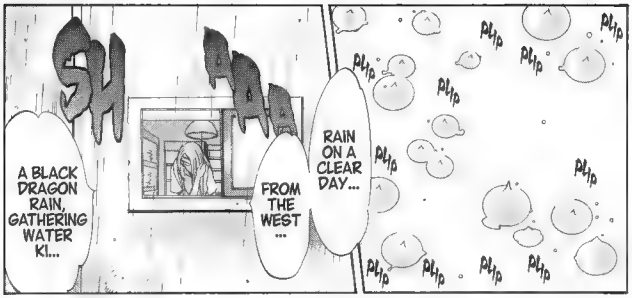
HAHH!
HAHH!
HAHH!
AYA...
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU OKAY?
AYA...?
AYA!
IN THAT INSTANT...
...THE VISION REFLECTED IN HER EYES...
...WAS PROBABLY THE CRUEL FUTURE THAT LAY ONLY MOMENTS AWAY FROM US.
BA-THUMP
AY...

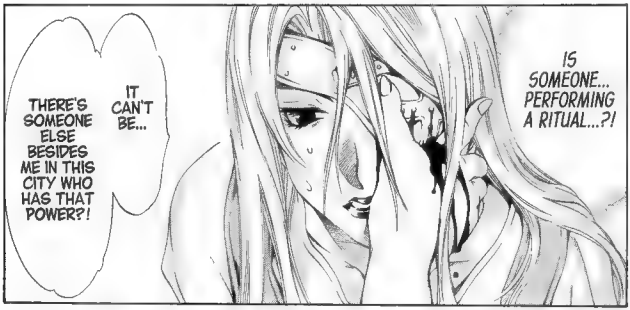
...BUT THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO PUT YOUR NECKS ON THE LINE LIKE THIS.
YOU MAY HAVE GOT CAUGHT UP IN THIS BATTLE WITH THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL...
YOU GUYS ARE NOTHING BUT A COUPLE OF STREET BRAWLERS.
NO...
BA-THUMP
DON'T...
SO-ICHIRO... SA...
THUMP
THE DANGEROUS POWER THAT RESIDED WITHIN AYA...
...HAD BEGUN TO CONSUME BOTH HER DESTINY AND OURS.
YOU BETTER NOT LAUGH.
I'M ONLY GONNA SAY THIS ONCE.
...THIS IS SOMETHING I HAFTA DO.
IT'S EMBAR-RASSIN', BUT...
I GOT A REASON, FOOL!
...SAY IT...
DON'T...

I'D SACRIFICE MY BODY A THOUSAND TIMES FOR HER.
SO DON'T FORGET IT, YOU BALDING DOUCHEBAG!
THAT MIDGET GIRL...
...IS THE FIRST GIRL I'VE EVER LOVED.
WHEN SHE BLASTED ME OFF THE THIRD STORY OF THE SCHOOL, IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
GOT THAT, ASSHOLE?

KIIIIIIIIIN
AS IF IT HAD JUST AWAKENED FROM A DEEP SLUMBER...
KIIIIN
KIIIIIIIN
A SOUND BEGAN TO RING FORTH FROM THE SWORD...
...THAT SOUND...
...I COULD CLEARLY HEAR...
KIIIIIN...
EVEN OVER THE SURPRISINGLY LOUD ECHO OF TWO HEARTS BEATING...

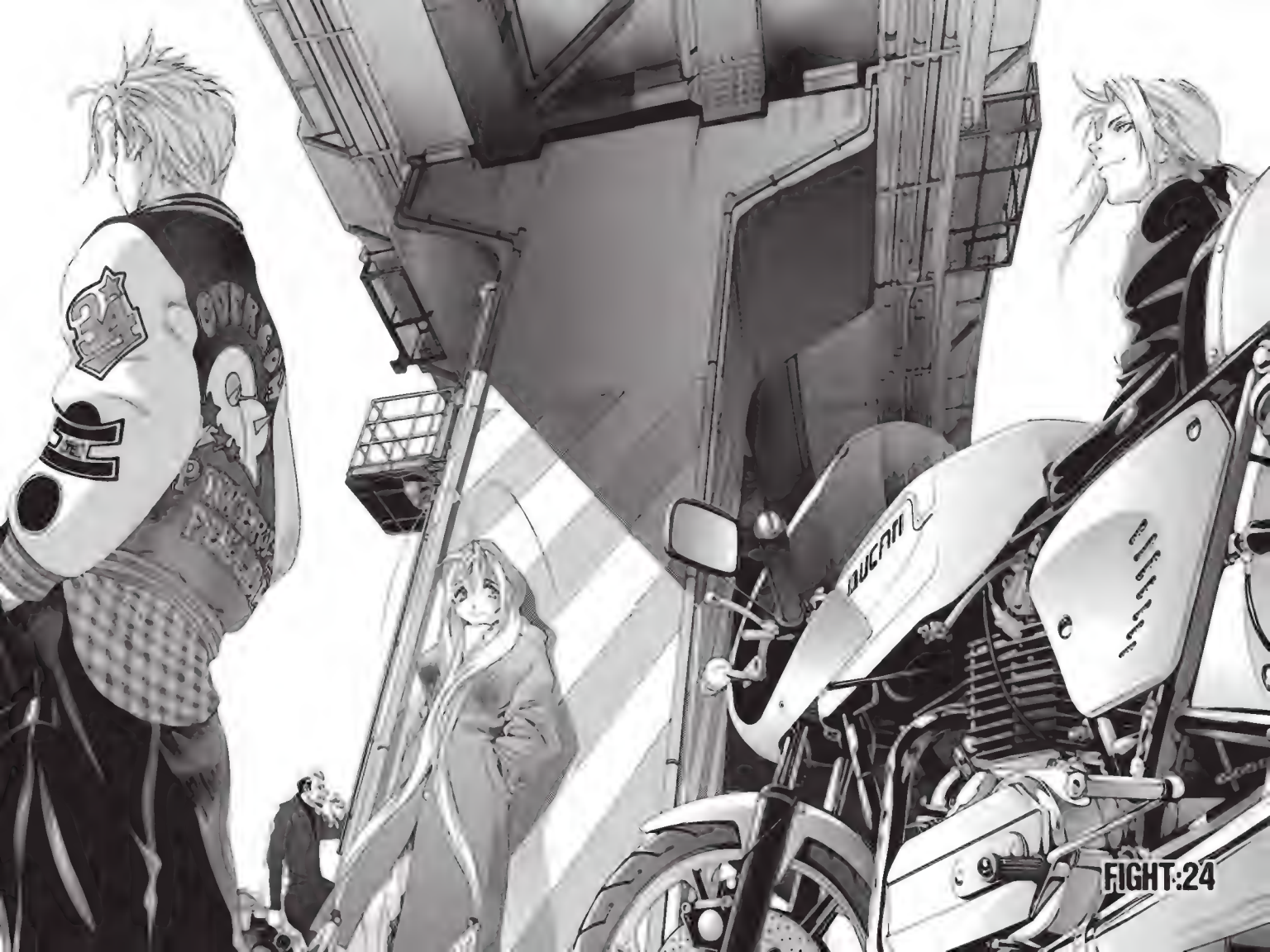
FIGHT:24


SHAAA
A BLACK DRAGON RAIN, GATHERING WATER KI...
FROM THE WEST ...
RAIN ON A CLEAR DAY...
pi1p


THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE BESIDES ME IN THIS CITY WHO HAS THAT POWER?!
IT CAN'T BE...
IS SOMEONE... PERFORMING A RITUAL...?!

KIIIIIIIN

KIIN'IIN
I WANTED IT TO RAIN EVEN HARDER.
HARD ENOUGH TO WASH AWAY HER TEARS...
...AND DROWN OUT HER CRIES.



FIGHT:24

I ALWAYS FIGURED...
...AYA WAS THE ONE YOU LIKED.

YEAH, WELL... I WAS GONNA TELL YOU ABOUT IT, I SWEAR.
SO GET OFF MY BACK ALREADY.
HAH?
You givin' me attitude?

HEH!
SORRY, MAN.
CAN'T SAY I BLAME YA, THOUGH. MAYA IS ONE FINE WOMAN.
LOOKS LIKE I HAD IT TOTALLY WRONG UP 'TIL NOW. WONDER WHY THAT IS? ♡

QUIT IT, MORONS.
YOU'RE MAKING A MESS.
Oh, yeah? Spit cannon!
Spit machine gun!
PEH
PEH
PEH

MNGAGA-GAHAHA-BUHEHEH-HOMAG!**
GRR GRR GRR
MNGA-GAGA-HAFF-GAGAH!*
*MUA HA HA! YOU FELL FOR MY TRAP, OLD MAN!
**YOUR LEFT ARM IS MINE! I WON'T LET GO EVEN IF I'M DEAD, BITCH!
YOWCH!
CHOMP
GHRRF!
...THE DICTIONARY DEFINITION OF ANIMALS.
Sigh...
MAN... YOU GUYS REALLY ARE...
Hey, I ain't like him!
YOU FIND OUT YOU CAN'T HANDLE HIM AND YOU RUN AWAY WITH YOUR TAIL BETWEEN YOUR LEGS.
YOU RUN INTO SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE AND YOU BARE YOUR FANGS.
THINGS DON'T GO YOUR WAY AND YOU START BARKING YOUR DAMN FOOL HEAD OFF.
ALL YOUR ACTIONS ARE THOSE OF A DUMB ANIMAL.

BETTER KEEP UP THE STRENGTH IN YOUR JAW OR YOU'LL BUST IT.
THOUGH YOUR TEETH ARE SO DUG IN IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE STUCK THERE.
THROB
THROB
THROB
UNH...
GWLH ?!
GYAAGH!
KRASSH

KRAA
ASH
BAM
GUH!
GAH!
GAH!
GAH!
GAH!
TING
TING
TING
TING

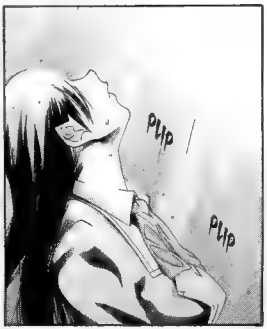
AGH!
BUT HE'S GOT A TOUGH RIVAL IN TAKAYANAGI JR. OVER IN THE JUKEN CLUB, SO HE'S BEEN FIGHTING DESPERATELY FOR THE COUNCIL TO TRY AND MAKE HIMSELF STAND OUT.
PTING
KRASH
HE'S REALLY AMBITIOUS. WANTS TO BE THE NEXT CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.
UNGH
TAKE THAT RYUZAKI GUY, FOR EXAMPLE.

AND TAGAMI AND ISUZU PLEDGED THEIR LOYALTY BECAUSE THEY'RE MITSUOMI GROUPIES.
SAGARA SOLD HIMSELF TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE MEMBERS OF HIS PRO WRESTLING CLUB.
!!

KWHAM
GYAGGH!!
THE THING IS, THEY'RE ALL THE SAME.
THEIR REASONS MAY BE DIFFERENT BUT...
...THEY'RE ALL FIGHTING FOR WHAT THEY BELIEVE IN.
WHAT ABOUT YOU GUYS?
SPURT
TWITCH
TWITCH
YOU THINK YOU CAN STIR UP ALL THE TROUBLE YOU WANT AND THEN JUST RIDE OFF INTO THE SUNSET? DO YOU HAVE NO SHAME?

IF YOU'RE GONNA ACT COOL AND SAY YOU'RE FIGHTING FOR THE WOMAN YOU BELIEVE IN, THEN...
...FIGHT...
...AND FIGHT...
...AND KEEP FIGHTING UNTIL YOU DIE. THAT'S HOW A REAL MAN GOES OUT.
THAT'S HOW PUNKS LIKE YOU OUGHTTA LIVE. DON'T YOU THINK?

...NO ONE DID ANYTHING WRONG.
THE TRUTH IS...


PLIP
PLIP

I STARTED CALLING SOICHIRO-SAMA MY HUSBAND, BUT IT WAS NOTHING MORE THAN A ONE-SIDED, SELFISH THING.
OF COURSE... I WAS HOPING... THAT HE'D COME TO SHARE MY FEELINGS...

I'M OKAY.
WHEN I GET HOME...
CRYING AND LETTING IT ALL OUT...
...MADE ME FEEL BETTER.
...I'LL TALK AND LAUGH WITH MY SISTER ONCE AGAIN.

I'M SORRY.
I'M FINE NOW.
TAKA-YANAGI!
TWITCH

I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO FEEL AWKWARD.
CAN WE KEEP WHAT HAPPENED TODAY A SECRET BETWEEN US?

AYA...

!!
FLINCH
OH, RIGHT!
C-CAPTAIN! WH-WHY... UH... WELL...
TAKA-YANAGI, HAVE YOU SEEN MY SISTER?!
AYA !!
SOMEONE SAID THEY SAW HER GOING UP HERE.

YOU SHOULDN'T BE RUNNING AROUND—
W-WEREN'T YOU GOING TO THE HOS-PITAL?
I'VE GOT SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT TO WORRY ABOUT!
IS SOMEONE BACK THERE? MOVE IT!

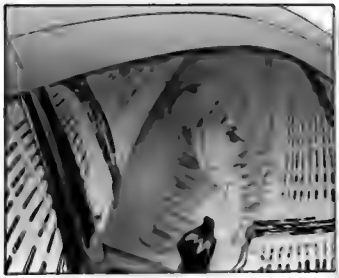
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
AH!

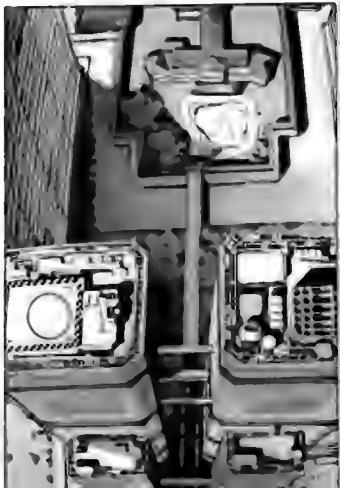
!!
SKWD
PLASH
THUD
...
WHOA
...
KRA-NG
STAY RIGHT THERE!
AYA! ARE YOU OKAY?!
WE NEED TO TALK! THAT SWORD YOU HAVE IS—
...
DRIP
DRIP

SHUT UP!!
SPLISH

TAKA-YANAGI...
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
...
THE...
WELL...
...
...
SPLISH
SPLISH
SPLISH
SPLISH

...
DAMN IT, WHY DO I ALWAYS GET THE SLICKY ROLES...?
I ASKED HER HOW HER BOOBS GOT SO HUGE...
THE TRUTH IS...
SHE GOT MAD BECAUSE I WOULDN'T STOP TEASING HER. HA HA HA HA HA.

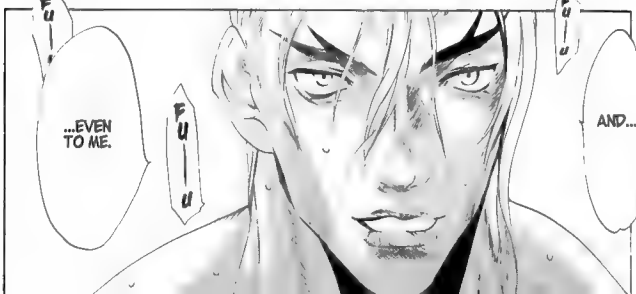




SWIPE
VRRRR!
SHUNK

FU—U
FU—U
FU—U
FU—U
STOMP
SO THOSE TWO FIRST YEARS ARE IN THE COUNCIL ROOM.
I SEE...

HRFF
HRFF
LEAVE THEM BE.
THEY WILL STAY ENROLLED.
THOSE FIRST YEARS AND THE JUKEN CLUB...
THEIR EXISTENCE MAY BE VITAL TO THIS SCHOOL AND...
SKRK
SKRK
...TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.


FU—U
FU—U
FU—U
...EVEN TO ME.
AND...

THWAMM
SKRCH...
WHOA!
WHOA!
I...
...AM GIVING MAYA ONE LAST CHANCE. ONE FINAL MONTH.

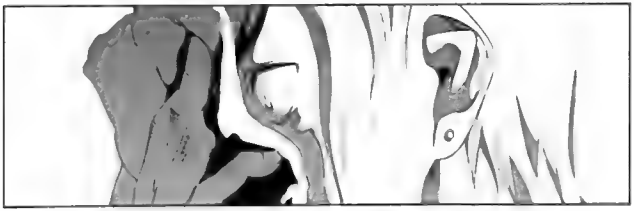
I HAVE GRANTED THOSE TWO...
BZT
...PERMISSION TO ENTER THE PRELIMIN-ARIES.
BZT
BZT
THK
AM
WHAMM
IS HE PUSHING HIMSELF TO THE LIMITS OF HIS ENDURANCE... IN ORDER TO FIND A PLACE TO DIE...?
HE MAY... ALREADY SENSE HIS DEATH DRAWING NEAR...
WHAT IS THIS... FEELING OF ANXIETY? I CAN'T PUT IT INTO WORDS...
YES, SIR.
THANKS FOR HELPING ME TRAIN.
LOOKS LIKE MY BODY'S REACHED ITS TIME LIMIT.
WHOFF
GRRRR
FWH
HROFF!
SHM
HMPH ...
SKF

YAAAH!!
FWKOOOM

...!!
SKRCH
SPLAT SPLAT
FSSH...
...YOUR FISTS WILL BE WEAK WHEN THE CRUCIAL MOMENT ARRIVES.
UNLESS YOU'RE USED TO TAKING LIFE...
!!
SURELY YOU DIDN'T COME ALL THE WAY HERE JUST TO GIVE ME THAT INFORMATION.
ISN'T THERE SOMETHING ELSE THAT YOU WANT TO TELL ME?

...YES?
SO I DEBATED WHETHER I SHOULD TELL YOU OR NOT, BUT...
WELL...
THIS IS STILL UNCONFIRMED.

THE RITUAL SWORD, REIKI!
THERE WAS A REPORT THAT...
...SOMEONE SAW IT ON CAMPUS.



AND THE ONE BEARING IT...
...WAS THE YOUNGER NAT-SUME.
AYA.

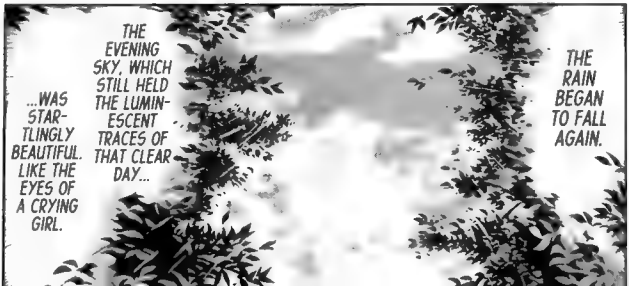
KIIIIIIIIN
WHAT?
...
KIIIN
HAA...
HAA...
HAA...
HAA...
KIIIN.
KIIIN

HAA...
HAA...
HAA...
IT'S NOT MAYA'S FAULT.
IT'S NOT MAYA'S FAULT.
HAA...
IT'S NOT MAYA'S FAULT.
IT'S NOT MAYA'S FAULT.
NOTHING HAD BEGUN.
I...
I HAVEN'T...
...LOST ANYTHING.
I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE THIS!
HAA
IT'S NOT SOICHIRO-SAMA'S FAULT.
HAA
HAA
IT'S NOT MAYA'S FAULT.
IT'S NOT MY FAULT.
IT'S NOT MAYA'S FAULT.
HAA
HAA

KILL
NO, I...
IT'S NOT MAYA'S ...
I CAN'T...
IT'S NOT HER FAULT ...
...
I CAN'T FORGIVE HER!
...

...!
SHAAAA

PLIP
WHERE ARE YOU?!
AYA!
PLIP
AYA!!


...WAS STARTLINGLY BEAUTIFUL. LIKE THE EYES OF A CRYING GIRL.
THE EVENING SKY, WHICH STILL HELD THE LUMINESCENT TRACES OF THAT CLEAR DAY...
THE RAIN BEGAN TO FALL AGAIN.

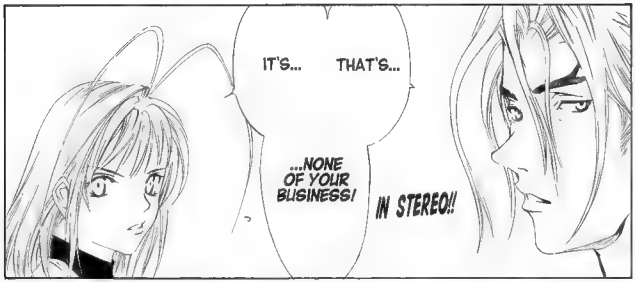
FIGHT:25

...THE INFAMOUS LEADER OF THE SUPREME WARRIOR FACTION.
HUFF
HUFF
HUH.
SO YOU'RE...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
WHAT A LET-DOWN.
...SHE SUDDENLY APPEARED BEFORE ME...
ONE DAY...
...SPAT-TERED WITH THE BLOOD OF HER FOES.
I WAS EXPECTING SOMEONE IMPRESSIVE.
BUT YOU CAN'T BE THAT GOOD IF YOUR MEN ARE THIS PATHETIC.

MITSUOMI TAKAYANAGI.
BEAUTIFUL.
AND JUST
ABSO-LUTELY
AND SUCH PRECIOUSLY INNOCENT.
SHE WAS PROUD
AND CRUEL
THIS CITY DOESN'T NEED TWO "SUPREME WARRIORS."
SO I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU DOWN.

VRRRM
SKREE
LET'S GO!
SKFF
YES, MA'AM.
YOU MEN CHECK THE SOUTH BUILDING.
YO!
SKFF
SKFF
SKREE
KCHAK
KCHAK
KCHAK
VRRM
STAY IN YOUR GROUPS AT ALL TIMES!
IF YOU FIND HER, DO NOT APPROACH HER.
SPLISH
TOMP
YES, SIR!
LOOK FOR LONG BLACK HAIR AND A LONG SWORD.
THE TARGET IS THE YOUNGER NATSUME GIRL, AYA.
MATSUI GROUP WILL INVESTI-GATE THE EAST BUILDING.
SLAM
MAEDA GROUP, LET'S GO!

I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU HAD DESTROYED REIKI.
MAYA...
MITSU-OMI!
NII-SAN!
IS IT REALLY THAT DANGER-OUS?
"REIKI" IS THAT SWORD AYA HAS, RIGHT?
SO... UH...
...I'LL APOLOGIZE LATER.
BUT FOR NOW, WILL YOU HELP US, MITSUOMI?
I'VE ASSEMBLED AS MANY MEN AS THE TAKAYANAGI FAMILY CAN SPARE.
DON'T TELL ME IT'S ONE OF THOSE...
...CLICHÉD...
...LEGENDARY, CURSED "DEMON SWORDS"?


IT'S... THAT'S...
...NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
IN STEREO!!

STOMP
STOMP
GYAH!
DON'T SPACE OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD!
STOMP
STOMP
ORA ORA ORA ORA
OUT OF THE WAY, KID!
WHUD

SOMEONE SAW HER OVER THERE.
RIGHT.

AH...

SPLSH

HEY, AYA! I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.
THE CAPTAIN AND MY BROTHER AND EVERYONE ARE KICKING UP A FUSS.
SOMETHING ABOUT THAT SWORD.
COULD I ASK YOU A FAVOR, TAKA-YANAGI?
WOULD YOU LET ME STAY AT YOUR PLACE? I...DON'T WANT TO GO HOME TODAY.
UHH...
I UNDER-STAND, BUT...THE CAPTAIN ...
...HUH?

PLEASE?

WHAT?

WHAAAT?!!
OH, CAN WE STOP BY THE STORE?
I COULD AT LEAST MAKE DINNER FOR YOU.
Heh Heh
OH, YOU DON'T NEED TO DO THAT.
BUT I WOULD DEFINITELY LOVE TO EAT YOUR...
...COOK-ING.
I WANT TO DO IT. IT'LL HELP ME RELAX.
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO EAT? MEAT? FISH?
WAIT! HOLD ON, ME!
OH, UMM...
ANY-THING'S FINE WITH ME!
IS THIS OKAY? IS THIS REALLY OKAY?
IS THIS SOME SORT OF A MAJOR BETRAYAL OF THE CAPTAIN AND EVERYONE ELSE?
BUT... EVEN IF IT IS...
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN WIPE THIS SHIT-EATING GRIN OFF MY FACE.

JIGGLE

DING
DONG

HN...?

UMM... WHERE'S HIS SIGNATURE STAMP...
FWSH
FWSH
OH, CRAP. I MISSED SCHOOL AGAIN. OH WELL.
I GET SO SLEEPY AFTER SEX...

OKAY, OKAY.
COMING!
DING
DONG
DING
DONG
PACKAGE FOR MR. MAKIHARA!

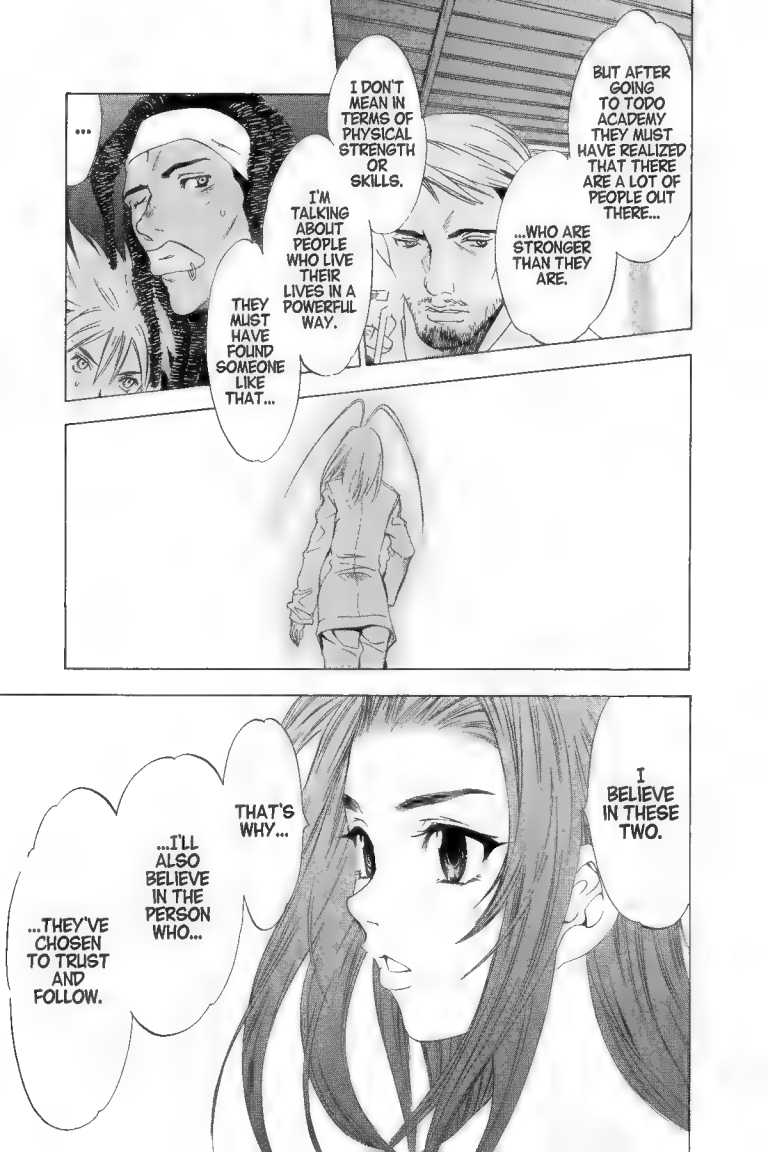
NO SIGNATURE NEEDED.
PERISH-ABLES.
Honey, I'm home ...
Yo...

THUD
THUD
THEY SAID THEY COULDN'T WALK, SO I BROUGHT THEM HOME FOR YOU.
GAH!
LOOKS LIKE I WAS A LITTLE TOO TOUGH ON THEM.

GROW SOME BALLS BEFORE THE NEXT TIME, HUH?
SEE YA LATER, KIDS.

YEAH, I REMEMBER YOU.
CAN'T FORGET A NICE RACK LIKE YOURS.
DIDN'T WE MEET AT THE BOWLING ALLEY?
HEY, WAIT!
EXCUSE ME?
UM...
...
ASK NATSUME.
...LIP TO NOW.
ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED...
YOU KNOW ABOUT... EVERYTHING, RIGHT?

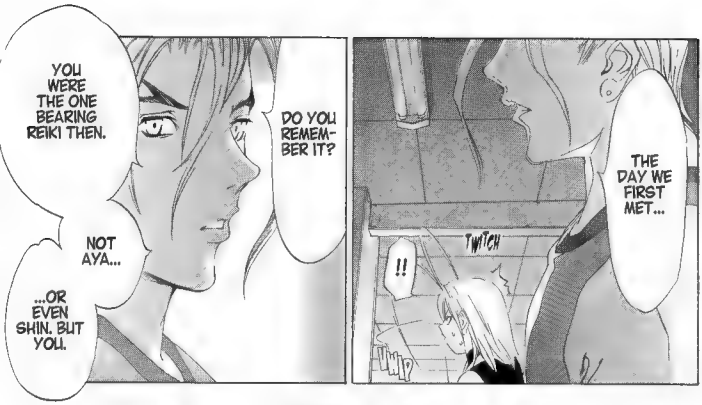
PUNCH
GLARE
PUNCH
WAIT!
SORRY I BEAT UP YOUR BOYFRIEND.
ACTUALLY, NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THEY'RE THE ONES WHO STARTED IT.
THESE TWO...
...WERE CALLED THE "KNUCKLE BOMBS" IN JUNIOR HIGH AND WERE ALWAYS GETTING INTO CRAZY FIGHTS.
BUT THEY KEPT ON WINNING AND...
...AFTER A WHILE I THINK THEY GOT IT IN THEIR HEADS THAT THEY WERE REALLY STRONG.

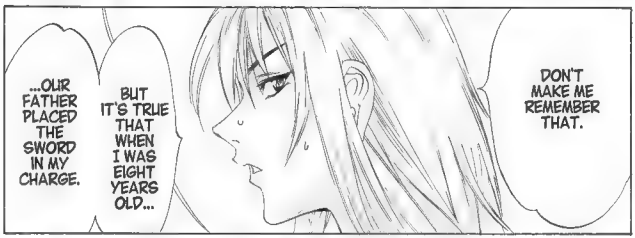

...
I DON'T MEAN IN TERMS OF PHYSICAL STRENGTH OR SKILLS.
I'M TALKING ABOUT PEOPLE WHO LIVE THEIR LIVES IN A POWERFUL WAY.
THEY MUST HAVE FOUND SOMEONE LIKE THAT...
BUT AFTER GOING TO TODO ACADEMY THEY MUST HAVE REALIZED THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE OUT THERE...
...WHO ARE STRONGER THAN THEY ARE.
I BELIEVE IN THESE TWO.
THAT'S WHY...
...I'LL ALSO BELIEVE IN THE PERSON WHO...
...THEY'VE CHOSEN TO TRUST AND FOLLOW.

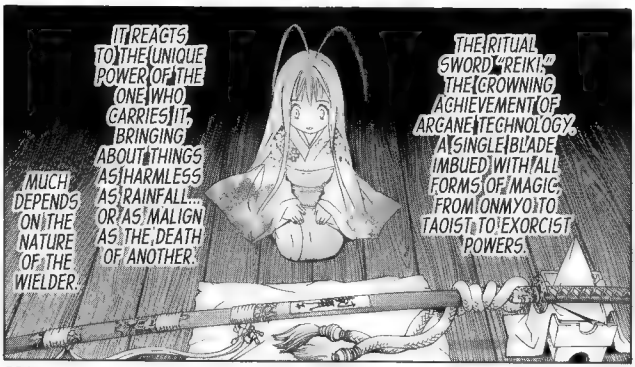
SKFF
RIGHT...
COULD YOU GO GET ME SOME BEER?
MAKE SURE IT'S NICE AND COLD.
...
IF YOU WANT ME TO GIVE YOU THE WHOLE SPIEL, I'M GONNA NEED SOME BOOZE.
IT'S A HELLLIVA LONG STORY.
MIGHT TAKE ALL NIGHT.
IF YOU WANT TO THANK SOME-ONE...
...THANK YOUR-SELF.
...
THANK YOU.

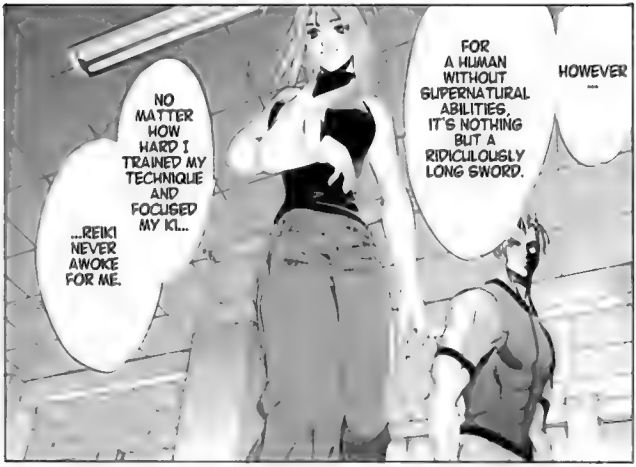
IF YOU WEREN'T ALREADY HIS GIRL I'D PROBABLY FALL MADLY IN LOVE WITH YOU.
NOW THEN...
WHERE SHOULD I START?
...WHEN MITSUOMI AND MAYA FIRST MET.
HOW ABOUT THE DAY...

KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
GENG


YOU WERE THE ONE BEARING REIKI THEN.
DO YOU REMEMBER IT?
NOT AYA...
...OR EVEN SHIN. BUT YOU.
THE DAY WE FIRST MET...
TWITCH
!!


DON'T MAKE ME REMEMBER THAT.
BUT IT'S TRUE THAT WHEN I WAS EIGHT YEARS OLD...
...OUR FATHER PLACED THE SWORD IN MY CHARGE.


THE RITUAL SWORD "REIKI," THE CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT OF ARCANE TECHNOLOGY. A SINGLE BLADE IMBUED WITH ALL FORMS OF MAGIC, FROM ONMYOJI TO TAOIST TO EXORCIST POWERS.
IT REACTS TO THE UNIQUE POWER OF THE ONE WHO CARRIES IT, BRINGING ABOUT THINGS AS HARMLESS AS RAINFALL... OR AS MALIGN AS THE DEATH OF ANOTHER.
MUCH DEPENDS ON THE NATURE OF THE WIELDER.


FOR A HUMAN WITHOUT SUPERNATURAL ABILITIES, IT'S NOTHING BUT A RIDICULOUSLY LONG SWORD.
HOWEVER...
NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRAINED MY TECHNIQUE AND FOCUSED MY KI...
...REIKI NEVER AWOKE FOR ME.

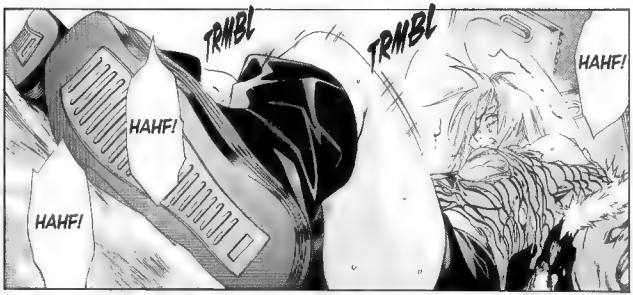
FATHER KNEW THAT.
UNLIKE AYA AND MY BROTHER, I DO NOT POSSESS SPECIAL POWERS.
SO I'M THE PERFECT SHEATH FOR THIS SWORD.
WHEN I FINALLY REALIZED THAT I WAS A FAILURE IN THE NATSUME FAMILY...

...I WAS IN OR IS YEARS OLD. IT WAS AROUND THAT TIME...
...WHEN I FIRST MET YOU.

BACK THEN I ONLY CARED ABOUT BECOMING STRONGER.
I WANTED TO BE LIKE A BLADE THAT COULD CUT THROUGH ANYTHING IT TOUCHED.
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT ...
...BEING STRONG MEANT.
SLAMM

WINTER, 199X.
TIME...
...HAD NOT YET SET OUR CRUEL FATE IN MOTION.

YOU'RE WEAK.

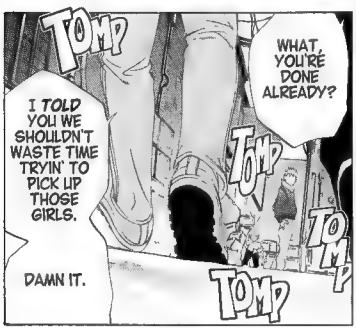

TRMBL
TRMBL
HAHF!
HAHF!
HAHF!

YOU SAID SOME-THING EARLIER ABOUT ME BEING THE SUPREME WARRIOR?
SORRY, BUT YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG GUY.
THERE'S SOMEONE EVEN STRONGER THAN ME.

I'M TALKING ABOUT YOUR BROTHER...
...MAYA NATSUME.

VROOM
RUUUU...
SKREE
SKREE
GRRM

...
YOU...
...KNOW WHO I AM?


TOMP
WHAT, YOU'RE DONE ALREADY?
I TOLD YOU WE SHOULDN'T WASTE TIME TRYIN' TO PICK UP THOSE GIRLS.
DAMN IT.
TOMP
TOMP
TOMP
TOMP

WHAT HAPPENED, MAYA?
YO!
YOU GOT BEAT AGAIN? HA HA HA!

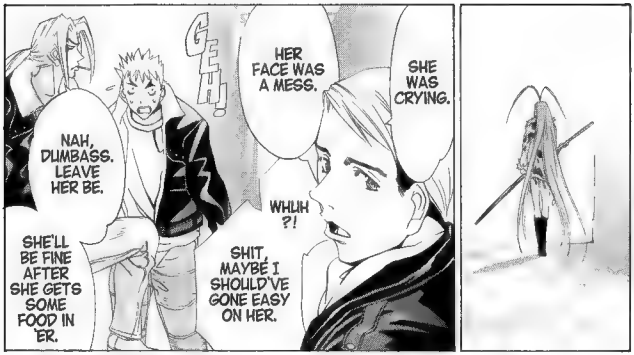
I GOT A CALL FROM MITSUOMI LAST NIGHT.
HE SAID HE MIGHT HAVE TO FIGHT YOU N' DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HE SHOULD DO.
I TOLD HIM TO JUST KICK YOUR ASS.

SHIN!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
HEY, SHIN.

NOOGIE
MITSUOMI HERE...
...IS GONNA BE THE LEADER OF KATANA AFTER ME.
YOU BETTER REMEMBER THAT!

DON'T MAKE ME DO SOMETHIN' THAT MEAN AGAIN.
I SHOWED HER RESPECT AND WENT ALL-OUT, BUT...
...HITTIN' A GIRL AIN'T MY THING.
WELL, HO-LEE SHIT. YOU WENT AND GOT YOURSELF A CODE OF HONOR OR SOMETHIN'?
SINCE WHEN DID YOU GRADUATE FROM BEING A PUNK?

WANT A RIDE?
SLAP
YOU CAN'T WALK, RIGHT?
And your clothes are ripped up.
I'M GOING HOME BY MYSELF.
I'LL WALK.


GEH!
NAH, DUMBASS. LEAVE HER BE.
SHE'LL BE FINE AFTER SHE GETS SOME FOOD IN 'ER.
HER FACE WAS A MESS.
WHUH ?!
SHIT, MAYBE I SHOULD'VE GONE EASY ON HER.
SHE WAS CRYING.

HAH?
WHAT'RE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?
I GOTTA SAY, THAT IS ONE HELLUVA TWISTED SIBLING LOVE THING YOU GUYS GOT GOING ON.
SHE WAS PROBABLY CRYING 'CAUSE YOU SHOWED UP HERE.
SHIN ...

WHAT'S WITH YOU?
STOP CREEPIN' ME OUT.
BUT, Y'KNOW... SHE SURE IS CUTE...
WHATEVER. IF YOU DON'T GET IT, IT'S NO SKIN OFF MY ASS.

I DON'T THINK...
...I'M GONNA BE ABLE TO FORGET ABOUT HER.
IN THE SPRING...
WE WOULD ALL MEET AGAIN SOON AFTER THAT.

FIGHT:26

WHEEZE
WHEEZE
KLIFF!
KLIFF!
HAHH
HAHH
WHEEZE
...
PHEW...
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!

GOD DAMN IT...
"KATANA HUNTER"?
WHO THE FUCK IS—
THWAK
WRAK
THNNK
KRNCH

RUSH!
HISSS...
MEOW!
HISSS!!
MEOW!
MEOW!
MEOW!
TWITCH
TWITCH

FIGHT:26

"AND TO THE 287 NEW STUDENTS HERE, I PROMISE YOU THAT...
"...WE WILL SHARE ALL JOY AND PAIN AS ONE.
"AND WE WILL EXCEL BOTH...
"...IN BODY AND MIND."
Todo Academy Entrance Ceremony
I AM THE NEW STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE...
...MITSUOMI TAKAYANAGI!

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

THIS SCHOOL IS A PARADISE.
I'M SURE THIS ACADEMY WILL...
...PRESENT YOU WITH THE MOST THRILLING AND EXCITING DAYS YOU'VE EVER EXPERIENCED.
IT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL TRULY ALIVE.
NO OTHER SCHOOL CAN DO THAT.
WHOOO
SSSH
THE ULTIMATE ECSTASY...

WHOOOSH
SKE
NICE SPOT YOU'VE FOUND HERE.
EVEN THE TAKAYANAGI COMPOUND DOESN'T HAVE A SAKURA TREE THIS BIG.
IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO GIVE THE SPEECH I WOULDN'T'VE GONE TO THE OPENING CEREMONY EITHER.
...
WHO SAID YOU COULD TALK TO ME?
YOU'RE RUINING MY MOOD.

BUT ALL I SEE...
...IS LIFE FALLING AND DYING.
EVERY YEAR AT THIS TIME ...
...MY BROTHER SAYS HE CAN HEAR THE JOYOUS SONG OF THESE PETALS AS THEY DRIFT DOWN TO THE GROUND.
LET ME JUST SAY...
PAT
PAT
...I DON'T CONSIDER THAT FIGHT A LOSS.
I WOULD HAVE KEPT GOING IF MY BROTHER HADN'T SHOWN UP.
PAT

YOU JUST WAIT.
OUR BATTLE WILL CONTINUE.
I'LL BE A LOT STRONGER THE NEXT TIME WE FIGHT.
SO YOU BETTER NOT LOWER YOUR GUARD AND GET BEATEN BY SOMEONE ELSE.
MAN, YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO GO AFTER THAT SCARY CHICK.
HERE'S ANOTHER GUY TRAPPED IN A TWISTED LOVE STORY.
B-BUNSHICHI... WHEN DID YOU GET HERE?
YAWN
HUH? I'VE BEEN HERE WHOLE TIME, IDIOT.
THIS IS WHERE I TAKE MY NAPS.
Your hormones are makin' you blind.
ANYWAYS, DIDYA HEAR?

THE "KATANA HUNTER."
HE GOT KIBO YESTERDAY. THAT'S THE THIRD THIS MONTH.
HE RIPPED UP KIBO'S JACKET AND HUNG IT ON THE FRONT GATE THIS MORNING.
WE'VE ALWAYS GOT A LOT OF ENEMIES, BUT IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE SOMEONE'S ACTED THIS BOLD.
I FEEL BAD FOR THE VICTIMS, BUT...
...IT'S GOT SHIN ALL EXCITED.
HE SAID THAT...
...THESE NEWBIES WON'T KNOW HOW SHARP A SWORD IS...
...UNLESS WE TEST IT ON THEM A LITTLE.

CHEW
CHEW
UNGH
DRAG
DRAG
TROMP
TROMP
TROMP
TROMP

SWISH
KLAK
HEY...
YOU'RE MAYA NAT-SUME, RIGHT?
YOU'RE IN MY WAY.
CHEW
CHEW

SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, BUT...
...COULD YOU GIVE THIS TO YOUR BROTHER ?
AND MAKE SURE TO TELL HIM THIS.
NOW THAT I'M HERE...
...THIS SCHOOL AIN'T NO PARADISE.
IT'S HELL.

I HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU BACK IN JUNIOR HIGH.
SEEMS LIKE YOU DIDN'T HAVE A CLUE THAT EVERYONE WAS JUST GOING EASY ON YOU OUT OF RESPECT FOR YOUR BROTHER.
DON'T GIVE ME THAT LOOK, CUTIE. ♡
DO I...
...LOOK LIKE SOME KIND OF MESSEN-GER TO YOU?
...
FLTR
YOU BROTHER-LOVIN' FREAK!
GO CRY AND BEG HIM TO PROTECT YOUR HONOR.
YOU BETTER RUN OFF TO YOUR BIG BROTHER NOW.
HUH? OH, MY MY...
DID THAT UPSET YOU? SORRY.
I DARE YOU...
...TO SAY THAT AGAIN.

WOOM
SWISH
Whoa!
...
I'M ALL FOR EQUALITY BETWEEN THE SEXES. ♡
OR AT LEAST WHEN IT COMES TO A FIGHT.
AMANO NEW STYLE!
MAH-JONG FIST!

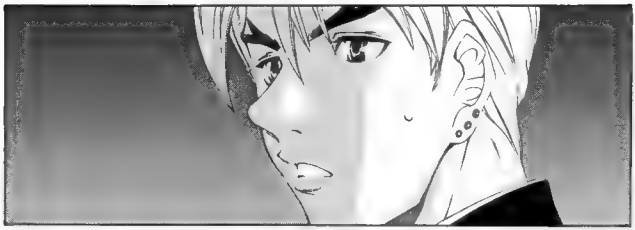
BOOO
!!
OM
TENHO
!!
HEAVENLY CANNON!
RYU ISO!
GREEN CLAWS!
HE'S...
SHVR
SHVR
SHVR
...SO FAST...

Nine-Wave Cannon!
Churen Poto!

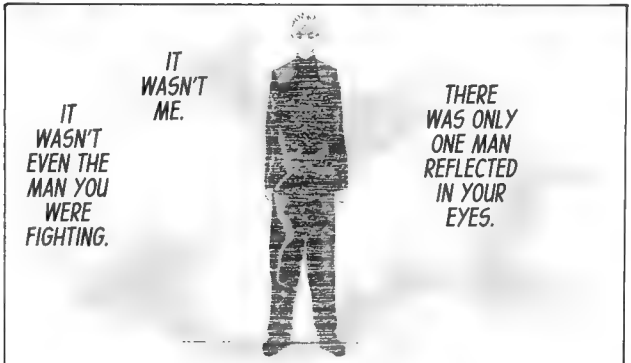
BAM
DORA!
BAM
DORA!
BAM
DORA!

WRAKK
YIFAN! LETHAL FLIP!
WEAKLING!
HOW DARE YOU CHALLENGE A MAN?
LITTLE BITCH!
*MO=A WINNING MAHJONG DRAW
YOU'RE NUTHIN' BUT A COCKROACH GIRL IN A LION'S SKIN!
Cockroach-like antennae.
...STRONG...
HE'S...
IF WE...
...STEP IN NOW, WE CAN SAVE HER FROM PHYSICAL INJURY.
BAM
BUT THE MENTAL WOUNDS SHE'LL BE LEFT WITH WILL LAST FOREVER.
AND THAT'S WORSE THAN DEATH TO A MARTIAL ARTIST.
UNDER-STAND?
KRACK
SMACK

THUD
...YOU MUST ENDURE THIS.
BAM
IF YOU TRULY CARE FOR MAYA...
TARAK
AND I MUST ENDURE IT AS WELL.
PLIK
PLIK
PLIK
PLIK



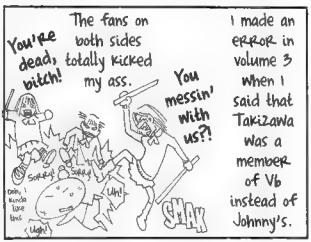
I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN FROM THE VERY START.


IT WASN'T EVEN THE MAN YOU WERE FIGHTING.
IT WASN'T ME.
THERE WAS ONLY ONE MAN REFLECTED IN YOUR EYES.

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT.
THAT'S WHEN IT ALL BEGAN.
THERE WAS NO ROOM IN YOUR HEART...
...FOR ANYTHING EXCEPT THE MASSIVE SHADOW OF YOUR BROTHER.
THAT'S WHEN I FIRST...
...THOUGHT ABOUT WANTING TO KILL SHIN.

Gurekichi's "I'm sorry I only have one page's worth this time" Bonus Manga

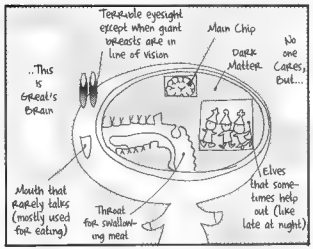
About ten years ago I applied to be an assistant to Masanori Morita Sensei.
I sent in a really shitty drawing of an airplane.
And?
Yeah?
It was when I'd just learned how to use tones
It's been a while, so I think it's safe to reveal this now.

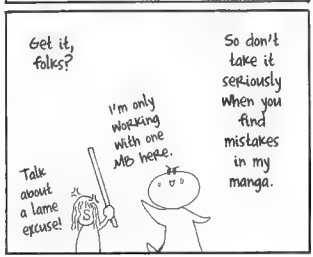

The fans on both sides totally kicked my ass.
You're dead, bitch!
You messin' with us?!
SLAY
I made an ERROR in volume 3 when I said that Takizawa was a member of V6 instead of Johnny's.

Why'd you wait ten years to tell that?
And so?
That's not unusual, right?
I guess it's to be expected... I lived pretty far away too.
I never even got a response...

So adding new information means the old stuff gets moved to trash.
One Floppy Disk
Listen, my memory is only, like, one MB's worth.

I didn't have a job then and didn't want her to worry!
Well... That's not unusual either...
I told my mom that I was offered the job but turned it down!
Ahhh!-The painful days of my youth!
I couldn't confess the truth!


Terrible eyesight except when giant breasts are in line of vision
Main Chip
Dark Matter
No one cares, but...
..This is Greal's brain
Mouth that rarely talks (mostly used for eating)
Throat for swallowing meat
Elves that sometimes help out (like late at night)


Get it, folks?
I'm only working with one MB here.
Talk about a lame excuse!
So don't take it seriously when you find mistakes in my manga.

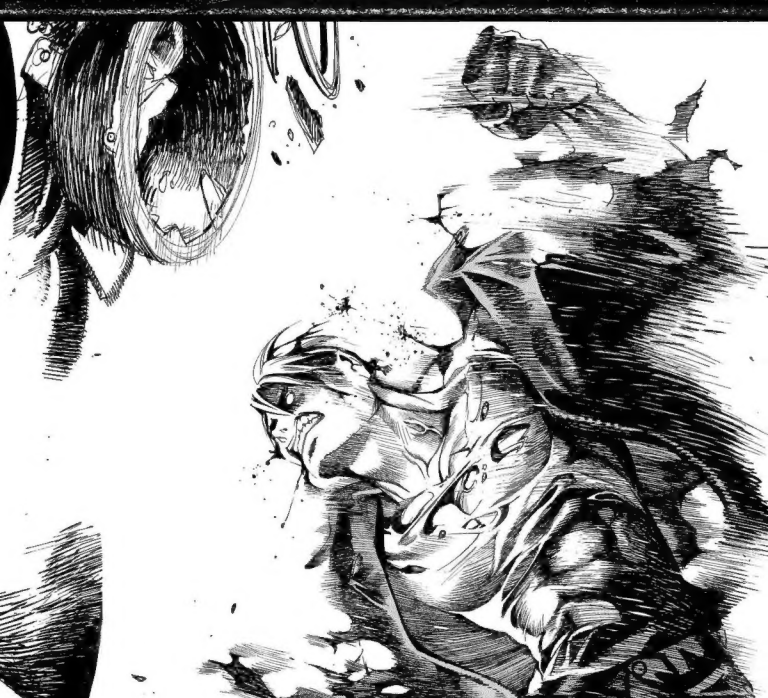
Series Editor: Kenzou Tonda
Book Editor: Ayami Sakurada
Original Design: Yoshitake Abiko
Thanks: Tatsumi Masahiro, Pacific,
Shin Takei, Oririn, Fujiroku Nishizawa,
Masaharu Maruyama, Akino Sasaki

A compilation of the serialization that ran in
Ultra Jump magazine from 1999 Issue 31 to 2000 Issue 2.

My new friends at work are Emperor, Korn, Indian-Hi and for some reason Chage & Aska. In other words, my home CD collection is just like the manga I create: random and all over the place!

END
VOLUME 2
PART 2

IN THE NEXT VOLUME



Mitsuomi and Maya are now rivals, but once they were close friends. Their lives were changed forever because of one person: Shin Natsume, Maya's older brother and Mitsuomi's mentor. Inheritor of the Dragon Eyes and leader of the Supreme Warrior Faction, the charismatic Shin also bears dark and terrible secrets. Struggling under the burden of the immense power he possesses, and manipulated by those who seek to use that power, Shin begins to lose control. Maya and Mitsuomi each have their own ideas for how to deal with his increasingly erratic behavior, but it's up to Bunshichi to really beat some sense into him!

Oh!great began his career as a professional manga creator in 1995. In 1997 his hit series *Tenjo Tenge* started running in *Ultra Jump* magazine, and in 2004 it was adapted into a TV anime. *Air Gear*, which began serialization in *Weekly Shonen Magazine* in 2002, received a Kodansha Manga Award in 2006 and was also adapted into a TV anime.

Tenjo Tenge
Volume 2

ViZ Signature Edition

Story & Art by Oh!great

Translation & Adaptation/Katherine Schilling
Touch-up Art & Lettering/Steve Dutro
Cover & Graphic Design/Sam Elzway
Editor/Leyla Aker

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
TENJO TENGE is rated M for Mature and is recommended for mature readers. This volume contains graphic violence, strong language, nudity, sexual situations, gratuitous panty shots, a ridiculous amount of ass-kicking, anatomically improbable cleavage, and people behaving really, really badly. If you're letting your kids read this, what's wrong with you?
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